
2023 Annual Report

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH — ESCANABA, MICHIGAN

Annual Meeting Agenda — Feb 2024

January 2023 - December 2023

1. Opening Devotion - Pastor Michael Markwell
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of 2023 Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes..... 2-3
4. Treasurer's Report 4-7
5. Financial Secretary's Report 8
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10. Task Force Reports
 - a. Outreach Ministry 13
 - b. Property & Management Committee 14
11. Organization Reports
 - a. Immanuel Lutheran Church Women (ILCW)..... 15-16
12. Presentation and Adoption of 2024 Budget..... 17-19
13. New Business
 - a. Council, Boards and Committees:
Audit, Investment Advisory, Nominating
 - b. Delegates: Synod Assembly, Delta Conference, Fortune Lake 20
14. Fortune Lake Camp Director's Report 21
15. Bishop's Report 22
16. Close of Meeting with Prayer

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting

February 5, 2023

Dave Mason – Congregational President called the meeting to order at 11:39 AM.

40 attendees signed in.

Opening Devotion – Pastor Michael Markwell

02-2023-01 Motion to approve the agenda. Barb Noblets/Maria Caron – Motion carried.

02-2023-02 Motion to approve the 2022 Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes and the Special Congregational Meeting Minutes (July 10, 2022) Judy LaCrosse/Tom Kozar – Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Franks explained the report. Balances that are running as a negative will have to be paid back at some point in the amount of \$12,041.35.

02-2023-03 Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Linda Mason/Mary Ciminskie – Motion carried.

02-2023-04 Motion to repay the \$12,041.35. Fred Breitzman/Leroy Scheeneman – Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report – Included in the Annual report for personal review.

Audit Committee Report – Included in the Annual report for personal review.

Pastor's Report – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Membership Record – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

President's Message – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Task Force Reports:

Outreach Ministry – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Children's Ministry – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Property & Management Committee – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Organization Reports:

Immanuel Lutheran Church Women (ILCW) – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

02-2023-05 Motion to accept Financial Secretary's Report, Audit Committee Report, Pastor's Report, Membership Record, President's Message, All Task Force Reports, and the Organizational Reports. Jodi Chouinard/Gloria Johnson – Motion carried.

Presentation and Adoption of the 2023 Budget. Jim Franks explained the Budget, mostly the same.

02-2023-06 Motion to approve and adopt the 2023 Budget. Jean Chapmen/Gary Corrigan - Motion carried.

New Business:

Council, Boards and Committees:

Audit, Investment Advisory, Nominating

Delegates: Synod Assembly, Delta Conference, Fortune Lake

Continues on next page.

(minutes continued)

Nominations:

Council: Jodi Couinard and Dave Mason are now off Church Council. Nominations: Katie Stewart, Marilyn Noble, and Richard LaCrosse. Officers are:

President – Gary Corrigan

Vice President – Char Scheeneman

Secretary – Deb Barton

Treasurer – Mary Ciminskie (Pending council approval)

Audit: Barb Denny, Maria Caron, and Kim Pepin.

Investment Advisory Board: Tom Kozar, Maria Caron, and Jim Franks.

Synod Assembly: Jim Franks, Barb Denny, and Pastor Mike

Delta Conference: Dave Mason and Barb Denny

Fortune Lake: Barb Noblet and Jodi Chouinard

Nominating Committee: Pastor Mike Markwell, Sharon Hawes, Jodi Chouinard, Linda Mason, and Carl Johnson

Financial Secretary: Linda Mason remains until 2024

02-2023-07 Motion to approve a unanimous ballet for all positions. Linda Mason/Leroy Scheeneman – Motion carried.

Pastor thanked President Dave Mason for his time as President, and Jodi Chouinard for her time on council.

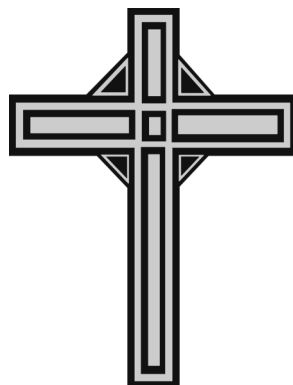
Fortune Lake Camp Director's Report – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

Bishop's Report – Included in the Annual Report for personal review.

03-2023-08 Motion to adjourn. Kathy Stewart – Motion carried.

Meeting closed with Dave Mason and the congregation singing His Eyes are on the Sparrow.

Submitted by: Deb Barton



Treasurer's Report

INCOME AND TRANSFER SUMMARY IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2023

SAVINGS ACCOUNT SUMMARY								
Category	Starting Balance	Investment Withdrawals	Cash Deposits	Vince Myers	Jefferson Annuity	Transfers Out	Balance	
Property Management Fund	\$ 526.53	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 1,955.00	\$ 5,485.90	\$ 820.23	\$ 9,677.01	\$ 1,410.65	
Outreach Fund (Good Samaritans)	\$ 4,445.21		\$ 2,663.00		\$ 820.23	\$ 6,173.83	\$ 1,754.61	
God's Fund	\$ 2,375.39		\$ 100.00			\$ 625.00	\$ 1,850.39	
Youth and Family Ministry Fund	\$ 4,022.61		\$ 912.25		\$ 925.30	\$ 1,434.38	\$ 4,425.78	
Fortune Lake Scholarships	\$ 2,827.50		\$ 677.00			\$ 800.00	\$ 2,704.50	
Choir Music Fund	\$ 583.94				\$ 105.07	\$ 175.00	\$ 514.01	
General Memorials	\$ (12,041.35)	\$ 39,741.35	\$ 592.46		\$ 105.07	\$ 30,427.86	\$ (2,030.33)	
HATI	\$ 255.00						\$ 255.00	
Capital Fund	\$ 1,962.37		\$ 25.00				\$ 1,987.37	
Roof	\$ 12,337.75		\$ 20,253.25			\$ 28,573.00	\$ 4,018.00	
TOTALS	\$ 17,294.95	\$ 42,041.35	\$ 27,177.96	\$ 5,485.90	\$ 2,775.90	\$ 77,886.08	\$ 16,889.98	

* General Memorials starting balance of (\$12,041.35) was shortfall from 2022.

* Investment Withdrawal of \$12,041.35 was taken in February 2023 to cover this shortfall.

* Total shortfall in 2023 is \$32,030.33

Checking Account Income						
Category	January	February	March	April	May	June
Benevolence			\$ 10.00		\$ 30.00	
Mission	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00		\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Bellin Rent						
Bulletin Sponsor					\$ 10.00	
Coffee Hour	\$ 62.00	\$ 131.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 49.31	\$ 102.00
Direct Deposit	\$ 150.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 200.00
Envelopes	\$ 7,851.00	\$ 7,018.00	\$ 5,647.00	\$ 7,458.00	\$ 10,047.00	\$ 6,377.00
Flowers						
Loose	\$ 65.00	\$ 291.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 616.75	\$ 3,487.50	\$ 709.35
Other		\$ 25.00	\$ 59.00			\$ 31.00
Parish Life						
Rents	\$ 450.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 285.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 75.00
Special Offerings		\$ 767.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 35.00		
Special Service	\$ 50.00	\$ 197.50	\$ 516.00	\$ 460.50		
Thrivent Choice		\$ 50.00	\$ 163.00	\$ 226.00		
TOTAL	\$ 8,628.00	\$ 8,814.50	\$ 6,907.00	\$ 9,357.25	\$ 14,493.81	\$ 7,494.35
	\$ 8,658.00	\$ 8,844.50	\$ 6,947.00	\$ 9,387.25	\$ 14,523.81	\$ 7,524.35

Category	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year To Date
Benevolence						\$ 413.50	\$ 453.50
Mission	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 330.00
Total	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 443.50	\$ 783.50
Bellin Rent				\$ 7,220.32			\$ 7,220.32
Bulletin Sponsor		\$ 10.00		\$ 20.00		\$ 30.00	\$ 70.00
Coffee Hour		\$ 38.00		\$ 76.00	\$ 128.00	\$ 166.00	\$ 878.31
Direct Deposit	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,350.00
Envelopes	\$ 5,557.00	\$ 7,797.00	\$ 6,361.00	\$ 7,981.00	\$ 7,424.00	\$ 7,234.00	\$ 86,752.00
Flowers							\$ -
Loose	\$ 844.25	\$ 218.00	\$ 137.25	\$ 414.00	\$ 297.05	\$ 744.00	\$ 7,861.15
Other				\$ 286.00			\$ 401.00
Parish Life							\$ -
Rents	\$ 275.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,720.00
Special Offerings							\$ 872.00
Special Service							\$ 1,224.00
Thrivent Choice							\$ 439.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,876.25	\$ 8,823.00	\$ 6,823.25	\$ 16,897.32	\$ 8,099.05	\$ 8,574.00	\$ 111,787.78
	\$ 6,906.25	\$ 8,853.00	\$ 6,853.25	\$ 16,927.32	\$ 8,129.05	\$ 9,017.50	\$ 112,571.28

TOTAL INCOME year-to-date *	\$ 148,011.04
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Petty Fund
\$1.37

Checking Balance	\$ 7.40
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*Note: Recategorizing investment distributions lowers ytd income by \$34,119.11

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Immanuel Lutheran Church Expense Summary			2023
CATEGORY	2023 Budget	Spent to date	
Enabling Ministries	\$ 146,667	\$ 137,926.69	94%
Worship	\$ 3,130	\$ 3,389.39	108%
Instrument Maintenance	\$ 580	\$ 640.00	110%
Music, Supplies, Copyrights	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,336.95	103%
Worship Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,276.44	128%
Other	\$ 250	\$ 136.00	54%
Evangelism	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,050.05	74%
Advertising	\$ 450	\$ 167.11	37%
Brochures, Web Site, & Supplies	\$ 675	\$ 562.45	83%
Hospitality	\$ 100	\$ 320.49	320%
New Member Ministries	\$ 100		0%
Other	\$ 100		0%
Synod Ministries	\$ 14,860	\$ 11,303.00	76%
NGLS General Benevolence	\$ 13,000	\$ 9,953.00	77%
Fortune Lake Camp	\$ 1,500	\$ 990.00	66%
Other	\$ 360	\$ 360.00	100%
Church Administration	\$ 19,340	\$ 21,040.38	109%
Utilities	\$ 13,690	\$ 15,228.87	111%
Supplies, Postage, & Equipment	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,470.98	99%
Synod Convention & Delta Conference	\$ 800	\$ 1,074.70	134%
Interest fee	\$ 100		0%
Other	\$ 250	\$ 265.83	106%
Staff Support	\$ 106,041	\$ 102,805.38	97%
Supply Pastor	\$ 750	\$ 471.94	63%
Pastor	\$ 78,960	\$ 80,034.06	101%
Base Salary	\$ 40,100	\$ 39,974.94	
Housing Allowance	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000.08	
Social Security Allowance	\$ 4,062.15	\$ 4,052.67	
Education Allowance	\$ 900	\$ 900.63	
Milage	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,296.24	
Health Insurance & Pension	\$ 19,698	\$ 20,809.50	
Church Secretary	\$ 9,945	\$ 10,040.78	101%
Custodian	\$ 5,850	\$ 2,587.05	44%
Choir Director	\$ 9,106	\$ 9,091.55	100%
Base Wage	\$ 8,656	\$ 9,091.55	
Education allowance	\$ 450		
Organist	\$ 270		0%
Financial Secretary	\$ 580	\$ 580.00	100%
Quilters	\$ 115		0%
Treasurer	\$ 580		0%
Tax Obligation	\$ 1,871	\$ (1,661.51)	-89%
Medicare	\$ 354.54	\$ 314.94	89%
SSI	\$ 1,515.96	\$ 1,346.57	89%
Church Obligation	\$ 1,870.50	\$ 1,661.51	89%

(Continued)

Savings Budget		\$ 44,684	\$ 49,746.69	111%
Outreach Ministries		\$ 5,250	\$ 7,679.83	146%
	<i>Gods Fund</i>	\$ 1,200	\$ 625.00	52%
	<i>Outreach Service Projects</i>	\$ 3,800	\$ 7,054.83	186%
	<i>Hope At The Inn</i>	\$ 250		0%
Youth & Family		\$ 3,850	\$ 1,481.74	38%
	<i>Adult Education</i>	\$ 200	\$ 170.26	85%
	<i>Youth Education</i>	\$ 1,200	\$ 370.23	31%
	<i>Programs & Trips</i>	\$ 600		0%
	<i>Scholarships</i>	\$ 1,000		0%
	<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	\$ 300	\$ 866.25	289%
	<i>Picnic</i>	\$ 350	\$ 75.00	21%
	<i>Other</i>	\$ 200		0%
Youth Camperships		\$ 1,500	\$ 800.00	53%
	<i>Camperships</i>	\$ 1,500	\$ 800.00	
Property Maintenance		\$ 20,800	\$ 15,392.62	74%
	<i>Insurance</i>	\$ 3,400	\$ 4,615.00	136%
	<i>Snow/Yard Services</i>	\$ 3,400	\$ 2,000.00	59%
	<i>Supplies, Services, & Minor Repairs</i>	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,277.45	82%
	<i>Capital Expenditures</i>	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,500.17	55%
Loan		\$ 13,284	\$ 24,392.50	184%
	<i>Roof Loan Principle</i>	\$ 13,284	\$ 19,008.05	
	<i>Roof Loan Interest</i>		\$ 5,384.45	
BUDGET TOTAL		\$ 191,351	\$ 187,673.38	98%

INVESTMENT AND LOAN ACCOUNTS SUMMARY - IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2023

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS SUMMARY - 2023							
Category		Starting Balance	Investment Gain/Loss	Cash Deposits	Distributions	Withdrawals	Ending Balance
Thrivent Dividend Income Plus		\$ 125,773.37	\$ 9,937.94			\$ 42,041.35	\$ 93,669.96
Security Plus Flexible Annuity		\$ 81,049.58	\$ 3,049.76		\$ 2,775.90		\$ 81,323.44
							\$ -
							\$ -
							\$ -
							\$ -
							\$ -
TOTALS		\$ 206,822.95	\$ 12,987.70	\$ -	\$ 2,775.90	\$ 42,041.35	\$ 174,993.40

ROOF LOAN SUMMARY - 2023					
Category		Starting Balance	Principal Payments	Interest Payments	Principal Balance Remaining
Mission Investment Fund		\$ 105,000.00	\$ 19,008.05	\$ 5,384.45	\$ 85,991.95
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
TOTALS		\$ 105,000.00	\$ 19,008.05	\$ 5,384.45	\$ 85,991.95

RAISE THE ROOF CAMPAIGN SUMMARY - 2023						
		Starting Balance	Donations	MIF Payments	Other Payments	Balance
Mission Investment Fund		\$ 12,337.75	\$ 20,253.25	\$ 24,391.00	Heat tape \$ 4,182.00	\$ 4,018.00
TOTALS		\$ 12,337.75	\$ 20,253.25	\$ 24,391.00	\$ 4,182.00	\$ 4,018.00

Financial Status as of December 31, 2023		
ASSETS	Checking Account	\$ 7.40
	Savings Account	\$ 16,889.98
	Petty Cash	\$ 1.37
	Mutual Fund - Thrivent Diversified Income Plus	\$ 93,669.96
	Security Plus Flexible Annuity	\$ 81,323.44
	Building and Lot	\$ 3,000,000.00
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,191,892.15
LIABILITIES		
	Roof Loan	\$ 85,991.95
	Tax Liability	\$ 1,661.51
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 87,653.46
FUND BALANCE		\$ 3,104,238.69

Financial Secretary's Report – End of the Fiscal Year (January 1, 2023– December 31, 2023)

Giving 0..... 18	\$17-18.....0	\$46-50 6
Under \$1 8	\$19-20 1	\$51-55 3
\$1-2..... 11	\$21-220	\$56-60 0
\$3-4..... 3	\$23-24 1	\$61-70 8
\$5-6..... 3	\$25-263	\$71-80 1
\$7-8..... 2	\$27-280	\$81-90 1
\$9-10..... 0	\$29-30 1	over \$90..... 3
\$11-12..... 0	\$31-352	
\$13-14..... 1	\$36-408	Total Giving Units 86
\$15-16..... 0	\$41-452	

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Audit Committee
Reporting for:**

**January 2020 - May 2020
June 2021 – May 2022**

**June 2020 – May 2021
June 2022 – December 2022**

During the month of September 2023 we performed the Audit of the Treasurer and Financial Secretary's records for the past four Annual Reporting periods, following in accordance with procedures recommended by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

During this time the Treasurer was provided with corrected beginning balances reported in electronic Quicken system as of 12/31/22-01/01/23 for the Thrivent Diversified Income Plus and Thrivent Security Flex Annuity. Corrections provided so the reporting for 2023 is accurate and can be traced for any asset withdrawals.

During this time the Treasurer was provided with corrected beginning balance reported in electronic Quicken system as of 12/31/22-01/01/23 for the long term roof loan. Actual principal and interest expense split for current year monthly payments of loan was provided. Balance confirmed as of August 31, 2023. Correction provided so future payments are split correctly and current balance outstanding can be visible at any time.

At this time, we have completed the majority of the audit but still have the portion relating to the review of payroll records to be completed. Receipts and expenditures have been reviewed. Items found are listed below with recommendations noted.

Submitted by:

Barb Denny

Kim Pepin

Maria Caron

Copies of the full audit are available in the church office.

Pastor's Annual Report

Greetings and peace to you,

As we wrap up another year in partnership together, it is a year that we can look back on and see the ways that God has continued to be at work through and around us. As we look forward to next year, I am hopeful for the ways that God will continue to be revealed to us and to our community. I am thankful for the great community and support we have at Immanuel. I am thankful for the work of the council, committees, and task forces. Most of all I am thankful for every one of you and the way that you respond to God's call.

This past year we continued to build back some of our programming that had not been present since before the pandemic. I know ILCW was excited to be able to host Lenten breakfast again in 2023, and the community responded very well to it. This year we saw the return of VBS through a partnership with Bethany and Christ the King. Thank you to the volunteers who helped with hospitality for the counselor, prepared meals for the students, and volunteered in other ways. We had around fifty participants during the week and are looking forward to this summer. We are grateful for the ways God was at work in these programs.

We have had staff transition this past fall in the office. We give thanks to God for Katey who served Immanuel as administrative assistant for a year, Chris who came in during the interim until a permanent replacement could be found, and Mary Finlan who joined our team January 2, 2024 and is quickly learning the position. We give thanks to God for all of those who have served in this role in the past year and for the volunteers that have helped in different ways during the times of transition.

We have made significant progress in the past year on paying off the roof loan. We have raised about a third of our initial goal in just over a year. We thank you to all for your generosity in supporting that project while continuing to support our ministry budget as well. It is through your generosity of time, talents, and resources that we continue to be able to live out our mission and vision.

The past year has been a year of growth. As you will see elsewhere in the annual report our weekly attendance has grown by 20% over last year. We have welcomed new members, we regularly have visitors join us for worship, we have added programs and opportunities and continue to engage with the community. This growth has only been possible because of the continued work of all the members of Immanuel. It is my hope and prayer that we continue growth not only numerically but in depth. That Immanuel continues to be a ministry that fosters, facilitates, and supports your own spiritual growth, faith formation, and spiritual practices and that Immanuel continues to live into its mission and vision for ministry. Thank you for your continued commitment to the ministry we do together,

Pastor Mike Markwell

Membership Record for 2023

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

January – December 2023

* In-person 3,142
 ** On-line worshippers 1,197

Total Worshippers 4,339

Weekly Average: In-person 60
 On-line 23
 Total 83

Ash Wednesday, Midweek Lent and Advent, and Christmas Eve are included in these numbers.

*One Sunday worship was with Bethany so attendance wasn't counted.

** Worship was not streamed the day of the picnic.

MEMBERSHIP RECORD

January 1, 2023	Active	130
	Inactive	57
	Total	187

December 31, 2023	Active	141
	Inactive	55
	Total	196

PARISH REPORT

Baptisms

None

Deaths

Shirley Lewis
 Passed on 2-7-2023

Steve Johnson
 Passed on 4-30-2023. Born on 8-7-1947

Mary Jean Kidd
 Passed on 5-9-2023. Born on 12-30-1925

Scott Franks
 Passed on 5-28-2023. Born on 6-23-1969

Nancy Davis-Frischman
 Passed on 9-1-2023. Born on 7-26-1943

Martha Martin
 Passed on 9-14-2023. Born 10-15-1966

Marriages

None

New Members

Shirley Lewis
 Brian and Ezra Sarnowski
 Lori Rudden
 Linda Olson
 Ray and Linda McDonald
 Judy Possi

Students Confirmed ~ October 2023

Addison Noblet
 Isabella Noblet

First Communicants

None

High school Graduates

None

President's Message

Always put your hope in God. Hosea 12:6

As we move forward into another year at Immanuel, join me in putting our hope in God for the future of our church. Who am I? My name is Gary Corrigan, and this is my first year as President of the council. I had previously served two terms as the Vice President. I was born and raised in Bark River, a proud 1990 graduate of BR-H. I have been employed at the Escanaba paper mill for 32 years, through their many name changes. I am currently working as a maintenance supervisor. In my spare time, I help coach the Bark River-Harris high school wrestling team. I am married to Traci, and we celebrated our 30-year anniversary this past October. We have four boys, Avry-20, Elliot-18, Grady-11, and Kye-10 who keep us hopping! I am looking forward to another great year at Immanuel.

This year we have welcomed 6 new members through affirmation of faith or transfer. We hope to see these numbers continue to increase. We have two open council positions this year due to term limits. We are looking for two members at large and we are hoping that someone on the council will take over the secretary's position. We want to thank Deb Barton and Ralph Johnson for their hard work and dedication to the church as they leave these council positions.

One of our challenges for the upcoming year will be to keep stewardship strong and keep Immanuel moving forward financially and faithfully. We currently have around 19% of our roof loan paid off. We still have a long way to go, but through prayer and perseverance, we will succeed. We are exploring ways to increase revenue in the hopes of balancing our budget. The council is working on this as a goal for the year.

Looking forward to a wonderful year,

Gary Corrigan

President-Immanuel Church Council

2023 Outreach Annual Report

What is the Outreach?

As a Grandmother when I think of outreach, I picture hands reaching out to pick up a grandchild. That pretty much explains outreach. We give a hand to those who need to be picked up at any given time. We give them HOPE! The Outreach Team provides ways that our church family can do just that. It provides opportunities where we can help those who need it. It is God's work through our hands.

Some of the ways Immanuel did that during this year are:

Collection for the Jacobetti Veteran's Home 2-Bay College Meals
2-Red Cross Blood Drives Candy Sale for Fortune Lake Camperships
Tri-County Safe Harbor Collection Diaper Drive for Mission of Hope
Mission of Hope Fall Harvest Collection Trunk or Treat Operation
Christmas Child Shoeboxes Hat and Mitten Tree

Thank you to those members of the team that headed up these projects and to everyone that supported them!

Financial Report

Beginning Balance: \$2,276.61

Deposits:

\$1,900 Yearly Allotment
\$ 193.60 donations
\$ 894.00 Candy Sale (Mission of Hope) \$ 575.00 Diapers \$ 820.23
Ann Jefferson Memorial \$ 500 Monetary Match for Children's Museum
\$ 375 Memorial
\$144 Candy sale for diapers

Expenses:

\$ 500 Weaver Family
\$ 250 Jacobetti Home
\$ 200 YMCA
\$ 500 Kiwanis
\$ 200 Gas Card for Blood Drive
\$ 350 LWR Aid Assistance
\$ 250 Delta County Cancer Alliance
\$ 250 Bethany Store
\$. 81.27 Bay College Meal
\$ 500 Mission of Hope
\$1473.90 Diaper
\$ 50 Remnants
\$ 125 Medical Assistance
\$1000 Dream Weaver Children's Museum
\$116.86 Bay College Meal
\$76.80 Saykllys for diapers

Balance: \$1,754.61

If there is anyone in our church family that hears of a need or knows of a need please reach out to one of our team. If you would be interested in joining our team just let one of us know. We meet once a month and they are short (less than an hour) meetings. We would love to have you!

Outreach Team:

Barb Noblet	Mary Ciminskie	Deb Barton
Lynn Burak	Jean Chapman	Sandy Sovey
Gail Johnson	Sandy Gonsowski	Donna Woerpel

Thank you to everyone at Immanuel for being the outstretched hands doing God's work in our community and beyond!

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Noblet Chairperson

Property & Management Committee Report

The Property committee had a slow year as we didn't have to tackle any big projects and not that we don't have them. We have a budget and are limited to what we can do. We are coming along fairly well on getting our roof project paid down as we have has some generous donations towards this and pastor is hoping we can pay this off soon. The pasty making crew has stepped up to help pay the roof down. Thank you so much for the volunteers who help with this and for the people who purchase pasties!

We had to cut down many trees that were dead in the summer of 2022, that were diseased and this past summer we had members of the church that planted new trees on our property and in the future we will hopefully have some stately trees and thanks to all who helped with this project.

We also had installed lighted exit signs as required by code at all exit doors and again an unexpected expense that we had to find money for. They say that the good lord will provide and I guess that is the case with our church!

I would like to thank all the members who help out with things, mowing the grass, shoveling the snow, etc. A special thank you to pastor for keeping property informed of things that need fixing or improvements that need to be made and to step up and be one of our snow shovelers!

Thank you Lord for our church and our members, sincerely in Christ,
Tom Kozar
Property Co-Chair

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN (ILCW) ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

The kitchen cupboards were all completely cleaned in January after the new counters were installed. We discarded things that were not used anymore and did a little rearranging. We had help from the scouts on two evenings, they helped wash all the dishes and utensils. Their help was much appreciated. A new cart was purchased for the kitchen.

We had a successful Lenten Breakfast on February 18th after a two-year hiatus. We served over 130 people with the theme of "New Beginnings" as the theme for our program. It was good to be back. We had many volunteers making this another successful breakfast. ***Walking Together Book Study*** group continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month meeting at church in the fellowship hall at 11:30 p.m. We are currently reading *"WHEN THE GAME IS OVER IT ALL GOES BACK IN THE BOX"* by John Ortberg.

*Our ILCW group continues to send out **cards to our shut-in's**, with Char Scheeneman leading this endeavor. Please let her know of anyone we should send cards to. At Christmas I was able to deliver gifts with an assortment of small blankets, lotions, socks, large print word search books, and InKind Bars to the shut-ins. It is a pleasure to be able to see how much they appreciate the visit and gifts.

*Barbara Denny attended the Fall **SWO Convention and Fortunate Lake Retreat** held October 13-15, 2023. The Theme was "Our Walk with God!" I always enjoy my time at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. Met new people and had a chance to connect with old friends I've met in years past. We had wonderful fellowship time, great food for every meal, and our accommodations are always clean and convenient. Looking forward to next fall. Scholarships are available if anyone else is interested in attending.

*Donated **77 quilts** and **25 personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief** in October. We meet on Monday mornings from nine to noon. Anyone is welcome to join us. We haven't started evening quilting this year, anyone interested?

Contact Barbara Denny and we'll try to pick an evening that works. All the donations of sheets and material are much appreciated. So pleased to be able to do 25 personal care kits with all the donations from our congregation. Thanks to each of you.

*Service Groups: Served at six funerals.

In October Barbara Noblet began an exercise group. We follow video instructors in our fellowship hall on Mon.-Wed.- Fri. starting at 9:30 and it lasts about 45 minutes. Everyone is invited to join us.

Officers for the ILCW are: President, Barbara Denny; Vice President, Gail Johnson; Secretary, Cindy Charbonneau; and, Treasurer, Maria Caron. Our meetings have now moved to **the 2nd Monday of every other month starting at 5:30 p.m.** Our next meeting is March 13th. All the women of Immanuel are considered members, we would love to have you join us.

*Our **Lenten Breakfast and Musical Program** is scheduled for February 10, 2024. We appreciate all the help we get in this endeavor. Our theme is "Find Your Mission." Come and prepare your heart for Easter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Denny, President



Immanuel Lutheran Church Women**Treasurer's Report December 31, 2023**

Balance as of December 31, 2022 \$ 1,230.80

ILCW Account Savings & Checking

December 2022 Balance \$ 1,112.49

December 2023 Balance \$ 1,433.65

Pasties Account

December 2022 Balance \$ 118.31

December 2023 Balance \$ 118.31

Balance as of December 31, 2023 \$ 1,551.96

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Luisa Caron

Treasurer

Immanuel Lutheran Church Spending Plan

CATEGORY	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	New 2023	Proposed 2024	
Enabling Ministries	\$ 139,473	\$ 141,718	\$ 159,867	\$ 162,398	102%
Worship	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,130	\$ 2,630	84%
Instrument Maintenance	\$ 550	\$ 550	\$ 580	\$ 580	100%
Music, Supplies, Copyrights	\$,300	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300	\$ 800	62%
Worship Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	100%
Other	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	100%
Evangelism	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,425	100%
Advertising	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450	100%
Brochures, Web Site, & Supplies	\$ 675	\$ 675	\$ 675	\$ 675	100%
Hospitality	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	100%
New Member Ministries	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	100%
Other	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	100%
Synod Ministries	\$ 14,280	\$ 14,280	\$ 14,860	\$ 12,500	84%
NGLS General Benevolence	\$ 12,600	\$ 12,600	\$ 13,000	\$ 11,000	85%
Fortune Lake Camp	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	100%
Other	\$ 360	\$ 360	\$ 360	\$ -	0%
Church Administration	\$ 16,650	\$ 16,650	\$ 32,540	\$ 33,850	104%
Mortgage			\$ 13,200	\$ 13,200	
Utilities	\$ 1,500	\$ 11,500	\$ 13,690	\$ 15,000	119%
Supplies, Postage, & Equipment	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	100%
Synod Convention & Delta Conference	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	100%
Interest fee	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	100%
Other	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	100%

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Immanuel Lutheran Church Spend- ing Plan

CATEGORY	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	New 2023	Proposed 2024	
Staff Support	\$ 102,265	\$ 104,415	\$ 106,041	\$ 110,127	104%
<i>Supply Pastor</i>	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 750	\$ 938	125%
<i>Pastor</i>	\$ 77,130	\$ 77,884	\$ 78,960	\$ 82,915	105%
Base Salary	\$ 38,400	\$ 39,100	\$ 40,100	\$ 42,500	106%
Housing Allowance	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	100%
Social Security Allowance	\$ 3,932.00	\$ 3,985.65	\$ 4,062.15	\$ 4,227.00	104%
Education Allowance	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900	100%
Mileage	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	100%
Health Insurance & Pension	\$ 19,698	\$ 19,698	\$ 19,698	\$ 21,088	107%
<i>Church Secretary</i>	\$ 9,555	\$ 9,945	\$ 9,945	\$ 10,530	106%
<i>Custodian</i>	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,720	\$ 5,850	\$ 4,992	85%
<i>Choir Director</i>	\$ 8,560	\$ 8,936	\$ 9,106	\$ 9,322	102%
Base Wage	\$ 8,160	\$ 8,486	\$ 8,656	\$ 8,872	102%
Education allowance	\$ 400	\$ 450	\$ 450	\$ 450	100%
<i>Organist</i>	\$ 160	\$ 270	\$ 270	\$ 270	100%
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	100%
<i>Quilters</i>	\$ 115	\$ 115	\$ 115	\$ 115	100%
<i>Treasurer</i>	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	100%
Tax Obligation	\$ 1,753	\$ 1,848	\$ 1,871	\$ 1,866	100%
<i>Medicare</i>	\$ 332.27	\$ 350	\$ 355	\$ 354	100%
<i>SSI</i>	\$,420.73	\$ 1,497	\$ 1,516	\$ 1,512	100%
<i>Church Obligation</i>	\$ 1,753.00	\$ 1,848	\$ 1,871	\$ 1,866	100%

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Immanuel Lutheran Church Spending Plan					
CATEGORY	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	New 2023	Proposed 2024	
Savings Budget	\$ 32,600	\$ 31,400	\$ 31,400	\$ 26,675	85%
Outreach Ministries	\$ 6,450	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,400	84%
Gods Fund	\$ 2,400	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 600	50%
Outreach Service Projects	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,800	100%
Hope At The Inn	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -	0%
Youth & Family	\$ 3,850	\$ 3,850	\$ 3,850	\$ 2,875	75%
Adult Education	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	100%
Children's Education	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 400	33%
Programs & Trips	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -	0%
Scholarships	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	100%
Vacation Bible School	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 1,000	333%
Picnic	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 75	100%
Other	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	100%
Youth Camper-ships	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,200	80%
Camperships	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,200	80%
Property Maintenance	\$ 20,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 20,800	\$ 18,200	88%
Insurance	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 4,600	135%
Snow/Yard Services	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	100%
Supplies, Services, & Minor Repairs	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	100%
Capital Expenditures	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	50%
BUDGET TOTAL	\$ 9,550	\$ 8,350	\$ 8,380	\$ 7,030	84%

2024 Council Members, Officers, Delegates and Staff of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Name	Term	Elected at this Annual Meeting	Term Expires at this Annual Meeting	2020-21 Nominating Committee Nominations for 2021-22
Current Council Members				
Richard LaCosse	1st	2023	2025	
Ralph Johnson	2nd	2022	2024	Dave Mason
Katie Stewart	1st	2023	2025	
Marylin Nobel	1st	2023	2025	
Vacant (up to 3 additional members)				Gloria Johnson Additional Nominations
Current Congregational Officers				
Gary Corrigan (President)	1st	2023	2025	
Charlene Scheeneman (Vice President)	1st	2023	2025	
Deb Barton (Secretary)	2nd	2022	2024	Needs Nomination
Mary Ciminskie (Treasurer)		Appointed 2023		
2022 ELECTED POSITIONS AND STAFF OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH				
Audit Committee				
Barb Denny	2nd	2021	2024	Needs Nomination
Kim Pepin	2nd	2023	2026	
Maria Caron	1st	2022	2025	
Investment Advisory Board				
Jim Franks	2nd	2022	2025	
Tom Kozar	2nd	2022	2025	
Maria Caron	1st	2020	2024	Needs Nomination
Synod Convention Delegates for 2023				
Jim Franks, Barb Denny, Pastor Mike Markwell				Needs nominations
Fortune Lake Delegates				
Barb Noblet and Rachel Markwell				Sharon Hawes and Need nominations
Delta Conference Delegates				
Dave Mason and Barb Denny				Dave Mason and Barb Denny
Nominating Committee for June 2023 meeting				
Pastor Mike Markwell, Sharon Hawes, Linda Mason, Jodi Chouinard, and				Need nominations
STAFF				
Pastor: Mike Markwell			Financial Secretary: Kim Pepin, Pending Council Ap-	
Administrative Assistant: Mary Finlan				
Custodian: Misty Mason			Music Director: Tim Worth	



December 6, 2023

Greetings from Fortune Lake!

We pray for your faith community and are grateful for your partnership. As you reflect on the past year and discern where the Holy Spirit is calling next, I present the following reflections from camp:

2023 was another blessed year for Fortune Lake, our 93rd year of operation! Here are some of the highlights:

- We served **476 summer campers** of all ages through our onsite programs and partnered with many of you to deliver **9 day camp programs** in your communities. The theme of *Holy Trinity, Wholly Loved* was impactful on both staff and campers.
- Our **rental and retreat usage is booming**, with 2023 being perhaps the best year on record!
- Our dedicated **year-round team of 4 full-time and 3 part-time staff** continues to work hard to provide a comfortable experience for all people. Our **summer staff, including 4 internationals, was vibrant, robust, and energetic**. We are now recruiting young adult staff for Summer 2024.
- The **property is in beautiful shape**, with many significant upgrades made possible by last year's CoVantage Cares Giving Tuesday Campaign. Duplexes have all receive new boilers, windows, and roofs. Emanuel Lodge has a new facade and fire alarm system. The Dining Hall has new windows and a commercial range and ovens. We'll wrap up upgrades in 2024. Additionally, our waterfront has a gorgeous new accessible pier from a private donor! Next spring we will complete the accessibility upgrade with an improved pathway from the sauna to the beach, through an ELCA grant.
- **Financially, we are holding our own**, despite the significant increase in the cost of food, basic supplies, and utilities. Our donors and association congregations have continued to show their commitment to this ministry. One-time donations, monthly electronic withdrawals, and legacy gifts are deeply appreciated and used to ensure that God's work continues. If you are in a position to give above and beyond your congregational giving, know that Fortune Lake will use your gift efficiently.
- Our **Total Inclusion Task Force** has worked to help us be more welcoming to people who have historically been marginalized in Christian camping spaces. Please visit our website to read the **new welcome statement** and learn more: <https://fortunelake.org/about/mission/>
- The Board of Directors recently updated our **mission statement**. It reads, "Seeking to connect faith and life, we provide a welcoming space for all people to experience God, community, and nature." Our **vision statement** reads, "With equity, we foster the growth and renewal of all creation through Christ-centered community." And our **core values** have been identified as: Inclusive Community, Growing Leaders, Faith Formation, Creativity and Exploration.

Join us in 2024 as we continue to partner in ministry and live into the mission to which Christ has called us!

Grace & Peace,
Amanda Rasner, Camp Director

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
138 Fortune Lake Camp Rd
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

*A place of grace to experience
and grow in faith*

906-214-CAMP (2267)
officemanager@fortunelake.org
www.fortunelake.org

Bishop Finegan's Annual Report Letter 2024

*⁶I planted,
Apollos watered,
but **God gave the growth.**
⁷So neither the one who plants
nor the one who waters is anything,
but **only God who gives the growth.**
⁸The one who plants and the one who waters
have a common purpose,
⁹For we are God's servants,
working together; ...
~1 Corinthians 3: 6-9*

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

As we begin the Year of our Lord 2024, I share with you the scripture focus of our Synod for the next three years. The above verse from Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth is an admonition to those who would make a distinction between baptism at the hands of one leader against another, as if baptism ties the newly initiated to the baptizer rather than to the one in whose name we are baptized. Paul asserts that the life of faith is about more than one believer or baptizer, rather all believers are part of the life cycle of ministry; one planting seeds- for the next one to nurture- for the next one to enjoy the growth given by the grace of God, which in turn enables seed planting for future ministry.

Together, all of us are Seed Sowers with a common purpose, and there is blessing in understanding the impact we can have in different seasons of ministry.

For the year of our Lord 2024, we will lean into what it means to "plant." I confess, I do not always have patience for planting. When I have been frustrated at a lack of response for a given effort, I often hear the reassuring word, "but you planted seeds! Who knows how those seeds will bear fruit in the future." While this is true and I am glad to be reminded, I would much rather see the fruits of my labor now.

If only ministry could be more like mowing the lawn! One makes the effort, sees the rows where the grass has been cut and where it still needs a trim, and when it's all done, there is a sense of satisfaction as I can see what has been accomplished. There is an immediate return on the labor and time invested.

So often, ministry is not like this. And yet planting is so important! There is no harvest without planting. There is no fruit of our labor. There is no passing on the faith, teaching, raising up leaders, building relationships in and out of our congregations.

We give thanks to God for the growth we enjoy from seeds that were planted long ago. Each of us has a story to share of who passed the faith on to us and how. Who was it that planted seeds of faith in you? How were they watered? And each one of our ministry efforts began somewhere. Who planted the seeds of your congregation? Of LWR quilts and food pantries? We celebrate that others have laid a foundation for ministry, and still others have built upon it. But only God gives the growth.

This year, as we focus on planting, we not only enjoy the fruits of what others have planted, but we take our turn to plant seeds for future ministry, future generations, future Church. We plant seeds for fruit that we may never see and for a future Church that may be very different from the one we know. Yet we plant, trusting that God will give the growth.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

