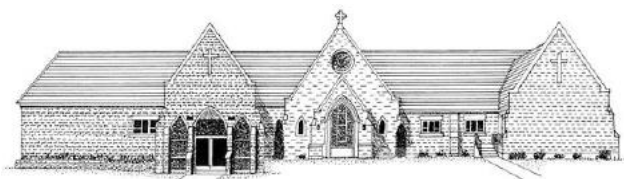


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

A part of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA

December

2025



December Worship Schedule

Dec 7 — *2nd Sunday in Advent*: 8:00 & 10:00 Worship

Dec 14 — *3rd Sunday in Advent*: 8:00 & 10:00 Worship

Dec 21 — *4th Sunday in Advent*: Worship

8:00 - Worship w/Holy Communion

10:00 - Children's Christmas Play and Holy Communion

Dec 24 — *Christmas Eve*:

4:00 PM Family Service with Communion

7:00 PM Lessons & Carols with Communion

Dec 25 — *Christmas Day*: **9:00** Worship w/Holy Communion

Dec 28 — *1st Sunday of Christmas*: **9:00** Worship

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might,
and come to save us!
Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

—*Psalm 80:1-3 NRSVUE*

In Advent we join an ancient cry—a longing that reaches back through generations of God’s people who waited in the dark for light to break in. The psalmist calls on God as Shepherd, the One who both leads and protects, and pleads for his face to shine again on a weary people.

Advent invites us to pray that same prayer. We wait for the God who comes close, the God whose nearness restores what is broken and revives what has grown faint. As Israel once looked for the Shepherd to return and rescue, we look for Christ—both in remembrance of his first coming and in hope for his coming again.

Today, let this simple refrain shape your waiting: **Restore us, O God. Shine on us. Save us.** May God’s light break into your life in every place still longing for renewal, and may your heart be awakened to the Shepherd who never stops coming to his people.

And as we wait, Advent teaches us to watch for the small signs of God’s restoring work—quiet mercies, unexpected encouragements, moments of peace that break through the noise. These are glimmers of his shining face, reminders that the Shepherd is already at work in our midst. Let each small light stir your hope, drawing your heart toward the greater light that is coming, the fullness of salvation promised in Christ.

Blessings to you always in the name of the One who shepherds us through the waiting and watching for our Messiah.

—*Pastor Christine*

Youth Ministries

Sunday School

The Children's Christmas program preparations have started for our PreK-6th grade. Because we have limited practice time, it is important to have your child at Sunday school as much as possible. Sixth graders should leave worship on Sundays by 10:40 to practice in the fellowship hall. Here are some important dates this month:



Program Dress Rehearsal & Christmas Party

Saturday, December 20th, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon.

Children will enjoy a party from 11:00-12:00 complete with pizza, cookies, juice and a craft.

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21st

during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Children need to arrive by 9:30 and meet in the fellowship hall for costuming.

If you know that your child will not be able to participate in the Christmas program, please let Patti Treptow know as soon as possible so parts can be adjusted.

**Note! There is no Sunday school on
December 28th**



**Thank you Congregation for your
generous donations to our
Noisy Kettle Collection!**

Our Little Lutheran's committee was able to purchase food for three families. The totes given to the families were filled with nutritious and fun, kid friendly food. You are a blessing!





December Class Date for 7th and 8th grade confirmation class

**Sunday, December 7th,
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

We meet in the fellowship hall. Light snacks will be available.

Service Activities

Baking for the Church bake sale – Confirmation students will bake cookies and other yummy treats on Saturday, December 13th, 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army – Confirmation students will join with other members of Emmanuel to ring bells on Saturday, December 13th at Jacks Market in Menominee. Students will have an opportunity to sign up in the narthex for one-hour shifts between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.



***Creative Faith
Afterschool Program***
Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade
Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Join us every Wednesday in the fellowship hall for amazing faith stories and songs, a light snack and fun crafts!



GLOW Youth Group 7th-12th grade

EVERY Wednesday 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us at church for Bible devos, group discussions, food, games, and fun.

Bring a friend!

Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Events



**Our Synod has an online Dungeons & Dragons Club
for young people between 6th-12th grade.**

Upcoming gaming dates are:

Sunday, November 30 – 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Central

Sunday, December 28 – 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Central

Please email Stefanie Ehle
at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org for the Zoom link or if you
would like to be part of this new club!



Adult Ministries

Prayer Group

Wednesdays, 9:30 AM

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.* New people welcome!

Care & Share Alzheimer's Support

Wednesdays, 3:00—5 PM

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, December 4 at 1:00 PM

Join us in the Friendship room for Bible study and fellowship. *All women are welcome!*

Congregational Financial Update

(through October 31, 2025)

Approved 2025 budgeted offerings received: \$187,750.00

Amount behind approved budget: \$4,150.00

Total offerings and income received: \$201,765.00

Total expenses: \$206,991.00

Expenses are greater than income by \$5,226.00

Emmanuel's Outreach Projects



Christmas Food/Non-Food Drive

We are collecting non-perishable food and non-food items for the Salvation Army food pantry. Also, we will make a box of food for anyone in need. If you know of a family or a person that would benefit from a box of food, please give the person's name and contact information to Judy in the church office. ***The food drive will take place November 23 through December 14.*** Donated goods may be placed in the marked area in the narthex.

Food items needed: Canned meats (tuna and chicken), canned dinners, complete meal foods like spaghetti sauce with meat, canned stew, boxed meals such as hamburger helper, peanut butter, soups, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, pancake mixes and syrup, and cereal. Baking needs such as flour, sugar, salt. Please check expiration dates – we cannot include expired food in the boxes.

Non-food items needed: Hand soap, body soap, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, dish soap, laundry soap, fabric softener.

Angel Tree



Thank you to everyone who took an Angel Tag from our Angel Tree. Emmanuel is partnering with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program. Gifts must not be wrapped, but placed in a bag with the Angel Tag securely attached. Gifts must be dropped off at church by Sunday, December 7th.



Christmas Bake Sale.....

We Need Your Help!

Our annual Christmas bake sale will be held on Sunday, December 14th between worship services. Our Outreach Committee, youth, and anyone interested in helping will be preparing for the bake

sale on Saturday, December 13th from 10:00 -12:00.

To make this sale a success, we need your help! If each person could bake one or two dozen cookies, baked items, or candy, we will easily meet our goal. Proceeds from the bake sale go to support outreach and youth projects.

Please bring your baked goods for the bake sale to the fellowship hall on Saturday, December 13th between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army!

***Saturday, December 13th
2:00 – 4:00 pm***

Jacks Market in Menominee



Emmanuel will be ringing bells for Salvation Army at Jacks Market in Menominee. We are seeking members of all ages to sign up for a shift of ringing and some singing! A sign-up sheet will be made available in the narthex where you can sign up for one-hour shifts. Let's make it a great turnout and show our community Emmanuel cares!

Sponsorship of the Messenger and weekly Bulletin

If you would like to sponsor a 2025 or 2026 monthly publication of the Messenger or a weekly publication of the bulletin in honor or memory of a person or event,
please contact the church office.

\$125 covers the cost of a Messenger publication and mailing.

\$30 covers the cost of a weekly bulletin.



Trivia Night at Spirit House

Trivia is on hold at the Spirit House until January, so we will schedule a different date to participate. *Stay tuned . . .*



Dale Barber passed away on October 31. A private service was held at Cadieu Funeral Home on November 26. We hold his wife, Sandy, and their family in our prayers.

Gerrie Tupper passed away on November 12. The funeral service was held at Emmanuel on November 20. Prayers and peace go out to her husband Ron, their sons, and grandchildren.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS



*All Christmas memorials must be received
by **Sunday, December 14th**
to be included in the Christmas Memorial
booklet.*

Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

I would like to:

\$_____ Place a poinsettia in the chancel (\$15.00 each)

\$_____ Furnace/chimney project

\$_____ ELCA – World Hunger Appeal

Given _____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In thanks to God _____

By _____

Envelope Number _____

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

Worship: 8 & 10 AM in person

Online Worship 8:00 AM

Livestreamed on our Facebook page

CONTACT US:

Phone: (906) 863-3431

Email: mail@e-mmanuel.com

or

Visit us on the Web at www.e-mmanuel.com



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Menominee Michigan ELCA

STAFF:

Pastor

The Rev. Christine Olson

Email: pastor2901@e-mmanuel.com

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Patti Treptow

Email: ptreptow@e-mmanuel.com

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 of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

