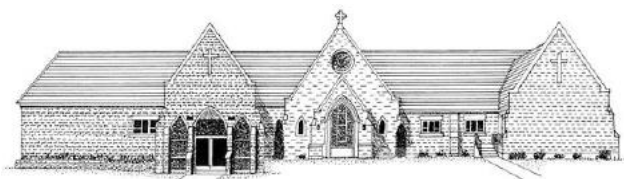


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA

March

2026

**Lenten Worship continues
throughout the month of March.**

All are welcome to participate!



Mondays: Online Compline at 8:00pm

Live, on Emmanuel's Facebook page — ***see inside this Messenger
for details***

Wednesday Morning Midweek Worship at 11am

At Emmanuel, led by Pastor Christine and Pastor Scott.

Wed Evening Midweek Soup & Worship at 5:15/6pm

will be held at different Menominee/Marinette churches each
week — ***see inside this Messenger for details***

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;
O Lord, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.
My soul also is struck with terror,
while you, O Lord—how long?
Turn, O Lord, save my life;
deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.
For in death there is no remembrance of you;
in Sheol who can give you praise?
I am weary with my moaning;
every night I flood my bed with tears;
I drench my couch with my weeping.
My eyes waste away because of grief;
they grow weak because of all my foes.
Depart from me, all you workers of evil,
for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping.
The Lord has heard my supplication;
the Lord accepts my prayer.

—*Psalm 6:2-9 NRSVUE*

The season of Lent continues throughout this month and ends the first Sunday in April. This season is a time of reflection—reflection that leads to closer relationship with God and deeper hope. In this, Lent invites us into honest prayer. Not polished prayer. Not impressive prayer. Honest prayer.

In Psalm 6, the psalmist does not hide weakness or fear. He cries out in exhaustion, sorrow, and vulnerability. His words sound like something many of us have prayed quietly in the night: “*How long, O Lord?*” How long will this illness last? How long will this grief weigh on my heart? How long will anxiety steal my rest? How long will the world feel so broken? This is the kind of prayer God welcomes.

Too often, we think we must come to God with everything together. But Scripture tells a different story. Again and again, God meets people in their weariness, tears, and doubt. Psalm 6

gives us permission to bring our whole selves before God—our fears, frustrations, and fragile hopes.

And then, something remarkable happens. After pouring out his anguish, the psalmist declares, *“The Lord has heard my weeping. The Lord has heard my supplication.”* Nothing around him has necessarily changed yet. The situation may still be difficult. But his trust has been renewed. He remembers who God is: gracious, faithful, and attentive to the cries of God’s people. This is the heart of Lent.

Lent is not about pretending we are strong. **It is about learning again that we are deeply loved.** It is a season for telling the truth about our need for mercy and trusting that God’s mercy is greater than our weakness. We walk this path with Jesus, who knows suffering from the inside and meets us there with compassion.

As we continue our journey through these forty days, may we practice honest prayer. May we bring our tired bones, anxious hearts, and weary spirits before God. And may we hear, again and again, the quiet promise of this psalm:

The Lord has heard.

The Lord is listening.

The Lord will not abandon you.

Blessings to you always in the name of the one who hears and welcomes our honest prayers.

—*Pastor Christine*

Sponsorship of the Messenger and weekly Bulletin

If you would like to sponsor a 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.

Youth Ministries



First Communion classes

March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29

Communion

All 5th graders and any 6th grader who has not yet taken Holy Communion instruction is welcomed to join us. The classes will be held during the same time as Sunday school classes in the conference room located at the end of the office hallway. Students are to go directly to class (not to worship) at 10:00 a.m. Letters and registrations were mailed to parents last month. If you did not receive a letter/registration, please contact Patti Treptow.

6th Grade Pre-Confirmation Prep!

Mark your calendars for our next class: **Sunday, March 15th, 11:00-12:00 in the Friendship Room. We ask that a parent join each youth in the class, as possible.** Don't forget to pick up a worship sheet on the table near the sanctuary doors each Sunday. After completing during worship, please place them in the box on the table.



7th & 8th grade class

March 8th
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Children's Events at Emmanuel March 29th

Palm Procession



The Sunday school children will be participating in the traditional palm procession on Palm Sunday, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Parents, please leave your children in the narthex at the beginning of worship to prepare for the procession.

Palm Sunday Egg Hunt

All children from toddlers to 6th grade are welcome join in an egg hunt at 11:00 a.m. Please meet in the narthex following worship/Sunday school to start the hunt!



Note, that there will be **no Sunday school on Easter Sunday**, April 5th so families can worship together for the entire Easter Sunday service.

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

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us at church for Bible devos, group discussions, food, games, and fun. ***Bring a friend!***

Our GLOW youth will be hosting a Bingo party, complete with fun prizes for the Luther Home residents on Sunday, March 22nd at 1:30pm.

On Sunday, February 15th our GLOW youth went tubing at the Gladstone Sports Park. Here are a few photos of this fun event:





Carl & Marion Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Emmanuel's 2026 graduating high school seniors who are attending a university or vocational/technical college are invited to apply for this scholarship. Applications for scholarship have been mailed to our graduating seniors. If you did not receive a letter/application, please contact the church office.

**Deadline for the application is
Wednesday, April 1, 2026.**

Presentation of scholarship(s) will be on Graduate Sunday, June 7th during the 9:00am worship service.

March Synod Youth Event Drumming and Dinner



Try something new! Youth between 6th-12th grade are invited to exercise their mind and body with a unique drumming class led by a guest instructor. All equipment will be provided, and NO prior experience is needed! Drumming will be followed by dinner and a devotion. We will meet at Bethel Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 29 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Friends are welcome! **Please RSVP to Stefanie Ehle at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org by Thursday, March 26 to ensure enough equipment.**

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, March 5th at 1:00 PM

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

Gentle Yoga

Tuesday 5:30-6pm \$8.00/person

Join us for this relaxing, stretching exercise. Led by Sally VanEyck.

Congregational Financial Update

(through January 31, 2025)

Approved 2026 budgeted offerings received: \$20,191.00

Amount behind approved budget: \$364.00

Total offerings and income received: \$21,054.00

Total expenses: \$22,000.00

Expenses greater than income by \$946.00

Please contact Judy at the church office if you would like a copy of your 2025 financial statement.



Emmanuel's Outreach Projects



Thank you, congregation, for your generous donations of soup! 182 cans were collected and given to Abundant Life Shelter and the Menominee St Vincent DePaul food pantry.

Easter Baskets for our Shut-ins

The Outreach Committee will be putting together Easter baskets for our shut-ins. The baskets will contain treats and fun items that will lift the spirits and let our members who can no longer attend our worship services or church activities know that we are thinking of them. The baskets will be delivered during Holy Week.



FORTUNE LAKE
A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

Summer Camp 2026

Registration for Fortune Lake summer camp is open.
Register online at FortuneLake.org

Emmanuel has scholarship funds available.

Scholarship applications and more information on camp can be obtained in the church office.

Prayerful Hearts and Healing



2nd Tuesday of each Month

5:00pm

In the "Chapel" (*music room*)

This month on *March 10th*

Come each month for a calming, short (30-minute) service of prayer, healing, and reflection on the second Tuesday of each month.

Together we will explore healing in God's light and love.

There will be no pressure for anyone to pray out loud or "perform" in any way. All people ages 15+, all personality types (*outgoing and shy, certain and uncertain, members and strangers*) are welcome!

See the January newsletter or talk with Pastor Christine for more info.



On Facebook Live on Emmanuel's page

Mondays at 8:00 PM

During Lent — March 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

The best way to participate in online Compline is to download the outline of the service that the pastor will provide and follow along, participating in the comfort of your own home. Or, you can simply close your eyes and listen. **The service lasts about 20 to 30 minutes and moves at a reflective pace.** After the service, people often feel ready to drift off to sleep.

Lenten MORNING Mid-week Worship

Wednesdays at 11:00 AM

Through March 25 at Emmanuel

We are offering a morning service option for Lenten Wednesday worship. Come and join us if you can't make it to the evening services. We're using Morning Prayer; no sermon. *These services are led by Pastor Christine Olson and Pastor Scott Ehle.*

Lenten EVENING Mid-week Worship

Wednesdays from Feb 25 — March 25

Soup Suppers begin at 5:15 PM at each location

Worship at 6:00 PM at each location

“A Way Home”

We have a half-hour worship service each week to help us pause and reflect. We are blessed this year to have many sister churches with whom to join together in worship!

March 4:

At Emmanuel, with participation from Bethel

March 11:

Our Savior's Lutheran —1600 University Dr, Marinette

March 18:

Hosted by Community Covenant & First United Methodist —Site to be determined

March 25:

Pioneer Presbyterian —1947 Riverside Ave, Marinette



Our Lenten Journey to the Cross

Lent is the season where we reflect, repent, and work at growing closer to Jesus. During Lent, you will see a table with a cross in the middle of the sanctuary along with baskets filled with rocks.

When we gather for worship during Lent, you are invited to select a rock at each service you attend.

Hold the rock through the service while you contemplate your relationship with Jesus. When you leave worship, place your rock at the foot of the cross on the table in the center of the sanctuary. This practice gives us an opportunity to acknowledge our troubles, our sins, our repentance, and our relationship with God and to place them at the cross. Our Lenten cross is a reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus and the gift of forgiveness we each receive when we follow Christ and leave our sins at the foot of His cross.

You can find rocks by the large cross in the narthex and on the two stands by the pillars in the center of the sanctuary.

Holy Week & Easter schedule

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday – March 29

Worship at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt for children

Final Online Compline – Monday, March 30

8:00 PM, live on Emmanuel's Facebook page

Maundy Thursday Service – April 2

Worship at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM

4:00 PM: Final 1st Communion Session

5:00 PM: Seder Meal for 1st Communion families

Good Friday Ecumenical Service – April 3

Pioneer Presbyterian

1947 Riverside Ave, Marinette

Noon to 3:00 PM, in half hour segments

Good Friday Service at Bethel – April 3

Worship at 6:00 PM

The Resurrection of Our Lord – April 5

Easter Worship with communion

at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

No Sunday School this Sunday



Puzzle Exchange

Sunday, March 1

The Fellowship team is hosting a jigsaw puzzle exchange—bring in your

puzzles and exchange it for another. Everyone gets a different puzzle to enjoy! Please identify if your puzzle is missing any pieces.



Fellowship Event

JOIN US FOR LUCKY BUNCO!

Tuesday, March 17 at 6:00 PM

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day we will be hosting **Lucky Bunco in the Fellowship Hall at 6 PM on Tuesday the 17th.** *Everyone is a little Irish, right?* Wear your green, and no Blarney—it is fun! **You may bring \$3,** if you wish, to help provide the prizes, and there will be snacks and wine offered. If you would like to bring another beverage to share, you are welcome to do so. **Bring a friend!** Men and women are both invited and encouraged to come. *Hope to see you there!*



—The Fellowship Team

Northern Great Lakes Synod

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

CONSIDERING YOUR CALL WEEKEND

March 20th-22nd, 2026
In-Person in Dubuque, IA

*Explore discernment and
vocation with others, and
experience the
Wartburg Theological Seminary
community in an intentional
weekend visit!*



REGISTER NOW



*This month's Messenger is given in
thanks to God by
Scott & Debbie Nerat*



All Easter memorials must be received by
Sunday, March 29
to be included in the Easter Memorial
booklet.

Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

I would like to:

\$ _____ Place an Easter Lily in the chancel (*\$18.00 each*)

\$ _____ Furnace/Chimney Fund

\$ _____ ELCA – World Hunger Appeal

Given _____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In thanks to God _____

By _____

Envelope Number _____