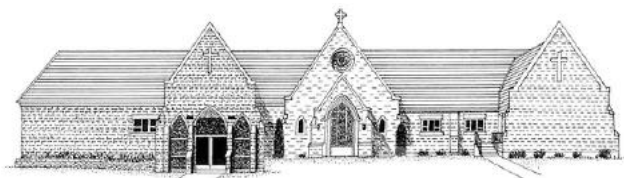


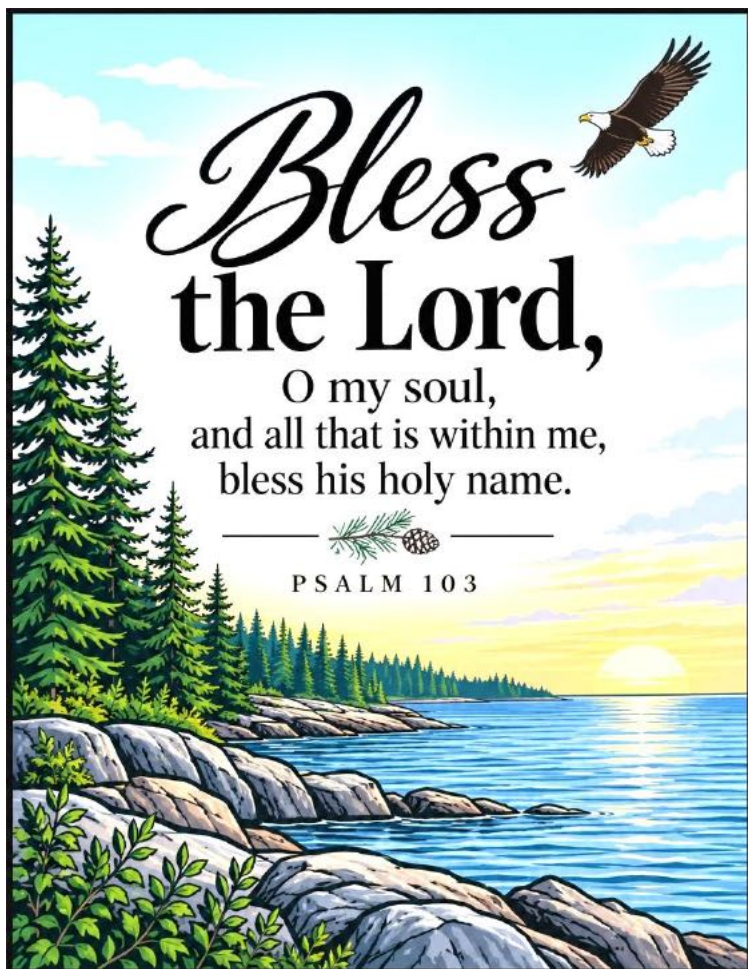
THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

August

2026



Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

— *Psalms 103:1-5, 8-13*

August has a different feel to it than June.

The excitement of summer has settled into something quieter. The gardens are producing their foods—perhaps even overflowing! The blueberries have ripened. The lakes are still inviting, though we notice the evenings arriving just a little sooner than they did a month ago. If we're paying attention, we can almost feel the season beginning to turn towards fall.

And maybe that's exactly why Psalm 103 speaks so beautifully this time of year. The psalmist doesn't tell us to *find* God's blessings. He tells us not to *forget* them. That's an important distinction.

God's goodness has been all around us—with us in sunrises over the Bay and sunsets over the river, in the smell of fresh-cut hay, children chasing lightning bugs, tomatoes still warm from the garden, laughter around a campfire, and quiet mornings when the only sound is the breeze moving through the pines. These moments may seem ordinary, but faith has a way of teaching us that ordinary moments are usually where God quietly meets us.

As summer begins to wind down, it is tempting to think ahead—to school schedules, fall activities, church programming, and everything waiting just around the corner. There is nothing wrong with looking ahead. But before we do, perhaps God invites us to linger here for just a little while longer. Take a deep breath. Look around. Give thanks.

The God who has filled these summer days with beauty has also filled them with mercy. No matter the season, God gives us freedom through the gifts of love and forgiveness. The One who *"crowns you with steadfast love and mercy"* is not changing with the seasons. Summer will give way to autumn, as it always does, but God's compassion *"is from everlasting to everlasting."* For this also, we give thanks.

So before August slips away, take a moment to notice. Allow yourself to feel joy and to recognize the things that bring joy. **Offer thanks for one small gift each day this month.** You may discover that gratitude doesn't simply remember God's blessings—it helps us RECOGNIZE that God is walking beside us every day throughout the year with love, gifts, and mercy.

Blessings to you always in the name of the One to whom we offer gratitude in the summer and in all seasons of life.

— Pastor Christine

Youth Ministries



**Emmanuel Youth
grades 7th – 12th**

Mark your calendars for our confirmation and youth retreat.

Saturday-Sunday, August 29-30.

Important information and paperwork were mailed out to parents on July 14th. If you were missed, contact Patti immediately.

Important parent/youth meeting August 2nd in the narthex following worship.



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!



Vacation Bible School

August 11, 12, & 13

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Don't miss our Blast Off VBS! Kids entering Kindergarten through 5th grade will enjoy a mission to discover God's incredible love and share it with others. Youth 6th grade and older are invited to be helpers. Letters and registration forms were mailed out. If we missed you, information and registration forms are available in the church narthex on the center kiosk. You are encouraged to invite a friend!

Contact Patti asap, if you haven't already signed-up!

VBS Kids need YOUR help!



We are collecting monetary donations for the ELCA Good Gifts program.

Our donations will go toward supporting farmers and honeybee colonies. Honeybees provide honey to eat and beeswax that allows farmers to start a small business selling their products. Honeybees are also critical in pollinating plants, which is critical in crop production.



There will be a collection area near the sanctuary doors in the narthex on August 9th

THANK YOU!



FALL RALLY DAY!

Sunday, September 13 at 10:00am

Join us for Rally Day at John Henes Park!

Plan to join us at the Rally Day Picnic this fall! As usual, will worship together and share in a delicious picnic together AND there will be activities for the children of the congregation.

We will also worship in the church building at 8:00 this day.

Adult Ministries

Prayer Group

Off for the summer - Will resume on September 3.

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.

Women's Group

Off for the summer - Will resume on September 10.

Yoga at Emmanuel

Off for the summer - Will resume in September

Congregational Financial Update

(through June 30, 2026)

Approved 2026 budgeted offerings received: \$116,359.75

Amount behind approved budget: \$3,768.25

Total offerings and income received: \$122,915.75

Total expenses: \$131,710.62

Expenses greater than income by \$8,794.87



People in our congregation have been standing up in worship to share some of their faith stories with us.

We are blessed to have heard from several who have shared:

Jim Briar	Holly Bayerl
Jeremy Sallgren	Brianna Camps
Kacy Eland	Matt Vanni
Cookie Kramer	Eileen Beyer
Jeremy Camps	Cindy Smith
Jeff Bayerl	

We are continuing these sharings on the 2nd Sunday of the month. This month, we are excited to have

Travis Rod on August 9th

to share some of his faith story! We hope you come to hear.

We need someone for October 11, November 8, and December 13. Please contact PC if you are willing.

Emmanuel's Brat Fry Fundraisers at Jack's in Menominee

Come out for a couple of hours between 8am and 2pm to help with Emmanuel's fundraiser on:

September 18 & 19

October 2 & 3



This is a big fundraiser for our church and it's FUN to do!

Thank you for your help!



Opportunities for Diving Deeper into Experiential Faith

We have more opportunities this month to cultivate a deeper and broader relationship with God by noticing the world around us, sharing in the ancient mystery of healing, and spending some time with Jesus.



God of All Creation

Tuesday, August 25 at 6:30 PM
at Red Arrow Park in Marinette
***Meet in the side parking lot,
the one with the boat ramp***

Bring a camp chair or a towel/blanket to sit on and join Pastor Christine at the park where we will look at God's creation in order to see what we can learn about the Creator. We will listen and look; reflect and breathe. We will share in conversation (*for whoever wants to speak—no pressure to share!*) about what we see and encounter. **We will pray and give thanks to God for everything around us and all we experience.**

All people, all ages are welcome—*families with young children too!* All personality types (*outgoing and shy, certain and uncertain, members, guests, and strangers*) are welcome!



Prayerful Hearts and Healing Service

**Monday, August 17 at 5:00 PM
in the Chapel**

This world can be a stressful place. It seems particularly tense right now, doesn't it? There seems to be so much division, so much fear, so much busyness, so much pressure to "keep up with the Joneses". We need a place to rest, to relax, to let go of our stress and allow God room to enter in the process.

We need a place to find room to breathe and space to heal.

Come for a calming service of prayer, healing, and reflection on the third Monday of each month. Together we will explore healing in God's light and love. All people ages 10+ are welcome!



Seeking Jesus

**Monday, August 17 at 2:00 or 6:00 PM
in the Chapel**

Spend some time with Jesus! Use your imagination to create a place in your soul/mind and then invite Jesus to come and talk with you. This prayer practice gives you a chance to open up to the Spirit and connect with God in new depths. The pastor has been using it for years to be present to God's Presence. In these sessions, she will teach anyone who wants to learn. **ANYONE can learn this prayer with a little patience, intention, and practice.** You don't need to settle for "head knowledge" only when it comes to your faith in God. In this prayer session, we learn to engage the heart and soul as well. *All people ages 15+ are welcome!*

9:00AM Summer Worship Schedule

We have ONE worship service during the summer, at 9:00AM. **Summer worship time will continue through September 6 (*Labor Day weekend*)**. *The regular worship schedule will return on September 13th with Rally Day — 8AM in the church building and 10AM at John Henes Park.*

OUTDOOR Worship: August 16

Bring a deck or camp chair, if you have one, and wear your sunscreen. **If it rains, we will worship inside.**

Building Maintenance Project UPDATE



Our church building needs some work. (See earlier newsletters for more details.) *With everything needed, we expect the total cost to be around \$30,000.*

So far, we have been given **\$9,242** for this project. *Thank you for your support.*

Are you getting our emails?

The pastor sends out emails to let Emmanuel members know about events, activities, or reminders. She usually sends around one a week. **If you have not been receiving these emails, please contact the pastor or church office and give your email address.** Thanks!

Free Concert at Badger Park August 12

The River Cities Big Band
(formerly known as the Community Jazz Ensemble)
will hold their local summer concert at
**Badger Park on Wednesday,
August 12 at 6:00 p.m.**

The 19-piece big band (that includes members from Bethel, Emmanuel, and Zion Lutheran!) will play a variety of toe-tappin tunes that span from Duke Ellington to Freddie Mercury.

Concessions will be available. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Thank you to Heritage Hearing and the Peshtigo Parks and Rec Department for sponsoring this free community concert!

Northern Great Lakes Synod

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

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*The August Messenger is given
in thanks to God and
in honor of their 51st anniversary
by Len & Judy Reid*

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

Summer Worship: 9 AM in person

Online Worship 9:00 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