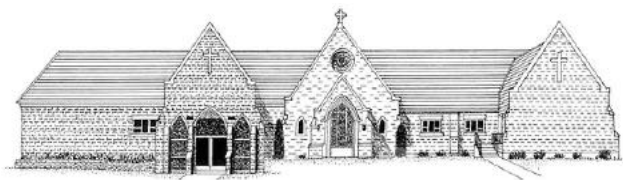


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA

October

2026



Reformation and Confirmation

Sunday, October 25, 2026

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.

— Psalm 62:5-8 NRSVUE

We have been learning that the core of our Lutheran beliefs can be summed up in the simple sentence: *“We are saved by Grace through Faith, APART from works of the Law.”* There is more to learn and say, of course, but this statement covers the core of the important theology. Here, for the month of Reformation, I am going to unpack it a bit. It is God’s love and grace (the free gift of love) that saves us from sin, hell, and the devil, not what we do or say *or* don’t do or say. This gift of God is realized in us through faith—TRUST in the God who gives it to us. All this is given to us APART from our actions. We can’t earn it; we participate in it by accepting God’s love and engaging with it in the world as we do our best to love others. We are saved by grace through faith, apart from works of the Law!

It’s important to learn this simple phrase of the core of our faith—memorize it and keep it near to our hearts. *Why?* Because the ways of the world often try to convince us differently. The world tells us to trust in ourselves, that we only deserve what we work for, and that our only hope is found in our own strength. These are lies by “the world” that often make us feel inadequate and make us think that our neighbors are people with whom we must struggle against instead of the friends they are meant to be. God’s way—the way of love—is a different way.

Read again the verses from Psalm 62 above. God is the only one in whom we can really hope. Hopes placed anywhere else will always disappoint us at some point. *“(God) alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.”* God’s grace is

overflowing and God's love is eternal. In life, and in death, it is GOD'S WAY that will prevail. **That has already been established.** It is truth, so matter what it seems like right now, no matter how hard things are in the moment, no matter what obstacles are before us.

This month we remember the Reformation, where in 1517 a movement began which attempted to course-correct the Church off of the path of salvation-by-works and back to the grace and love of God. Martin Luther wrote his most famous hymn, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, based of Psalm 46, but Psalm 62 echoes those words are well.

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.*

...

*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, good, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.*

The kingdom's ours forever!

No matter what happens in this life, God is with us. That is a promise! It is a promise that God fulfills by GRACE alone, which we receive through FAITH alone. Have a beautiful, Spirit-filled Reformation day!

Blessings to you always in the name of our Rock, Fortress, and Refuge.

— *Pastor Christine*

Retirement Announcement

Our beloved secretary, Judy, has announced her desire to retire. We give thanks for her MANY years of faithful service. When the official day arrives in the coming months, we will have a party to celebrate her and you will all be invited.

In the meantime, we must find someone to fill the role of secretary for Emmanuel. **If you or someone you know would like a part-time job of between 12-15 hours a week, please contact the church office for a job description and other information.**

Youth Ministries



Sunday School

Our Sunday school classes are underway! On October 4th we will have our monthly Bible Story Sunday event. As part of our

Sunday school program, every first Sunday of the month following the children's sermon, all of the Sunday school children will gather in the fellowship hall. Our children will participate in their own children's church service, watch a Bible story video, make a craft, play games, sing songs, 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 4th 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.

Sunday School Backpacks and Blessings!



Our Sunday school children started classes on September 20th and were invited to bring their school backpacks for a blessing for the new school year.



Creative Faith Afterschool Program

Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade
Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Join us every Wednesday in the fellowship hall
for amazing faith stories and games,
a light snack and fun crafts!

Bring a friend!



GLOW Youth Group

6th-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!



**Classes start for 7th & 8th
grade on**

**Sunday, October 4th
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

We meet in the fellowship hall. Light snacks will be available. 6th graders are encouraged to attend, as they are able, to see what confirmation classes are all about.

Next fall, 2027, we will be going to a three-year program to include 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.



Rite of Confirmation

Reformation Sunday, October 25

during the 10:00 am worship service

Cake and punch reception to follow.

**Congregation! Please come to worship
on the 25th to support and encourage
our youth as they take this next,**

important step in their faith journey

Affirming their Baptism this year:

Daly Butler

Jereson Camps

Dawson McKenney

Joshua Rod

Jordyn Sallgren

**Confirmands and families, mark your calendars
for Sunday, October 18th, 11:00-2:30pm for a
luncheon, faith reflections, rehearsal and photos.**

YOUTH RETREAT

Our youth gathered at the home/hobby farm of Rob and Patti Treptow, August 29-30 for their annual retreat. Our youth participated in a river float and other water activities. Our confirmands wrote their faith statements and created their stoles for their affirmation of baptism. Our other youth engaged in a Bible Study. The rain didn't allow for all planned activities, but God provided a wonderful experience for the youth. Thank you to Brianna Camps for helping to chaperone and to her dad, Mike Lock, for providing campers and to the congregation members who let us use float tubes, life jackets and tents.





Collecting through October

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 – children's and adult sizes, which will be given to needy families in the counties of Marinette and Menominee. There is a box in the narthex for your donation. **If you miss the drop-off dates, you may bring your donation directly to the Salvation Army location, 80 W Russell St., Marinette.**



"Trunk or Treat"

Saturday, October 31st

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

in Emmanuel's 13th street parking lot

Neighborhood children and children of our congregation 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.

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 Thursday, October 29th. Thank you!

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.

Women's Group

1st Thursday of each month

Women of all ages are invited to attend our monthly Women's Group. Join us as we explore God's word, enjoy fellowship, and support each other through our journey of faith.

Yoga at Emmanuel

Tuesdays, 5:30-6:00pm

All abilities and ages are invited to attend this relaxing, stress relieving, stretching exercise. The instructor is Sally VanEyck.
Cost is \$8.00 per person.

Congregational Financial Update

(through August 31, 2026)

Approved 2026 budgeted offerings received: \$144,906.56

Amount behind approved budget: \$7,721.44

Total offerings and income received: \$152,676.97

Total expenses: \$171,877.81

Expenses greater than income by \$19,200.84



Sunday, November 1 — No Packer's Game ☹️

... So, join us for creativity, fun, and fellowship!

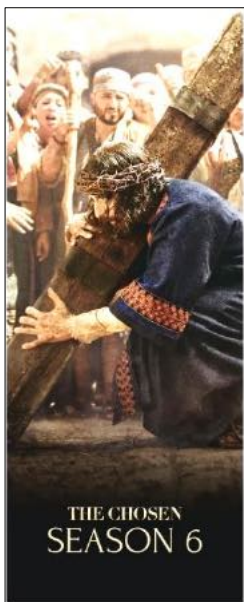
Paint and Potluck

Nov 1st, 11:15am — 1:00pm

\$40

Sign up by October 22

The Fellowship Team is organizing this event where we will be painting flower pots, with lots of options for your designs, directed by our friend Jessica, who has led us before in our creativity! It will be fun, with a potluck during our painting time! So, bring a dish to share and jump into creative fun in the fellowship hall! ***Non-artists are welcome and encouraged to come.***



The Chosen

Season 6, Episode 1

Nov 1st, 1—2:30pm

Free

SEE IT FIRST! Fear and confusion reign as the disciples struggle to make sense of Jesus' arrest— and Judas' betrayal. While they fight to stay together, Nicodemus stands alone against the High Priest in a heated showdown that throws the council into disorder.

Join us for a special early access event to watch *The Chosen* Season 6 Episode 1 here at Emmanuel in the sanctuary!

The Conference Meeting for the Menominee Valley Conference

**Thursday, November 5th at 6pm
at Bethel Lutheran Church.**

There will be light refreshments, and opportunity for fellowship, worship, and Conference Business. On the synodical level, Bishop Finegan and the ELCA are looking for ways for conferences to be more agile in meeting the evolving needs of our ministry settings. Join in the discussion!

We are looking for 7-10 people from Emmanuel who would like to join with other local sisters and brothers in Christ on this evening for fellowship, joy, and worship.

Please sign up in the narthex, to join in!

Little Jesus



Where is Jesus? Can you find Jesus?

Jesus can be found around the church, blessing different areas of our building. Let's help him so that he can bless the entire building!

When you find a little Jesus, do the following:

- 1) Thank him, and God, for blessing our church.
- 2) Pick him up and move him somewhere else, so he can bless another place. *(You can make him easy or difficult to find—it's up to you!)*
- 3) Take a picture of him in his NEW spot with your phone. Take a shot that shows some details of his new position, but doesn't completely give it away.
- 4) Text the picture to Pastor Christine at 304-995-1491.
- 5) Watch Emmanuel's Facebook page to see where Jesus will turn up next!



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

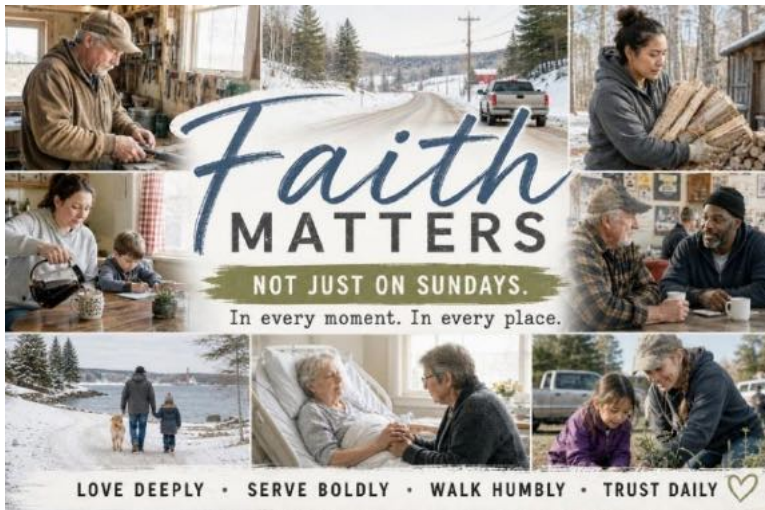
We are blessed to have heard from several who have shared:

Jim Briar
Jeremy Sallgren
Kacy Eland
Cookie Kramer
Jeremy Camps
Jeff Bayerl

Holly Bayerl
Brianna Camps
Matt Vanni
Eileen Beyer
Cindy Smith
Travis Rod

We are blessed to hear from
Kathy Saunier on October 11th
at both 8:00 and 10:00!

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





Welcome New Members!

Duane Clark

Kacy Eland

Natawsha Fox

Nick & Chris LaFleur

Roger & Gail Meyer

Sue Neumueller

Carl Servatius

Lindsay Wuhrman

Thank You for the Beautiful Table for our Chapel!



We are grateful to Bruce Peters for using his gifts and talents to create this elegant table for use in our new Chapel.

We also give a Special Thank You to the following:

Conrad & Karen Sutek — generously furnished the oak
lumber for the table

Len & Judy Reid — helped Bruce to build the table

Jim & Linda Berry — applied the finish and helped deliver
the table to the church

We praise God for the skills, gifts, time, energy, and generosity shared in the creation of this beautiful table for the chapel. All is a blessing!

Giving Thanks

Bible Study: Gratitude in faith and life

Mondays, starting Nov 2 for 4 weeks

from either 1—2:00 or 6—7:00pm

in the Chapel

This one-hour study will have 3 parts:

- 1) For the first 20 minutes, we share how blessings have filled and affected our lives. We will also talk about the ease and/or difficulty in living in a state of thanks-giving. *(No pressure to share—only those who WANT to talk.)*
- 2) For the next 20 minutes, we will study a scripture passage to see what the Bible says about being grateful and giving thanks. What does God's Word have to say about gratitude's role and purpose in life and in faith?
- 3) For the final 20 minutes, we will do a prayer practice that cultivates gratitude in our hearts and lives. Then, we will seek to do that practice on our own throughout the week to see our joy and thanks-giving grow.

The scriptures tell us to “give thanks in all circumstances”, but what does it mean to be grateful or to give thanks when times are tough, we are in pain, or we are facing difficulties? Is it possible to be grateful even in those circumstances? How can a regular practice of gratitude help strengthen our faith and our hope? This study and practice will help us to deepen and broaden our gratitude in our lives, give us strength for the lean days, and help us to live in gratitude even when things aren't going our way.

Sign up in the narthex.

Cost: \$0 —FREE!



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.



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:

THIS MONTH: October 2 & 3

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

Thank you for your help!

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 \$11,042 for this project.

Thank you for your continued support.

Adults:

Join Pastor Christine for a retreat this December!

Are you interested in experiencing a retreat setting for prayer and learning? Here is an opportunity! We can attend the following retreat as a group to grow closer to God and to each other in a unique experience. More details, including cost, will be coming soon. ***Please talk to PC if you would like more information.*** Mark your calendar and keep your eyes open for more details!



4-Day Prayer Retreat

offered by

***Contemplative Outreach of Southeast Wisconsin
(COSEW)***

at the

Siena Retreat Center at Racine, WI

December 3-6

(Thursday to Sunday)

Removing Obstacles for Transformation

Presented by Christine Bender

Christine will draw on Thomas Keating's Spiritual Journey series in her presentations to teach us about accessing our true divine nature. Centering prayer sessions and silence will provide retreatants with a balance of learning and prayer.

You can also contact Tricia Heine with questions:

taheines@yahoo.com or 608-852-5254



LWR Truck Loading

Saturday, October 10

9:00 — 11:30 am

at Zion Lutheran Church, Marinette

Adults and youth between 6th-12th grades are invited to help load items for Lutheran World Relief on **Saturday, October 10**. We will be loading quilts, school supplies, and baby kits onto a semi-truck for Lutheran World Relief between 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. There will be coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts available for the down time between truck arrivals. Please bring a water bottle. This year there is a **NEW LOCATION!** We will be meeting at Zion Lutheran Church (2714 James Street, Marinette) to fill a semi-truck instead of a boxcar.

Contact Stefanie Ehle

at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org or (810) 881-2669
with questions or to RSVP.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH SWEDISH PANCAKE SUPPER

Saturday, October 3, 2026

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Bethel will host its Swedish Pancake Supper and Fall Harvest Bake Sale on Saturday, October 3rd from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

The meal will consist of traditional Swedish pancakes with lingonberries, breakfast sausage, fruit and a beverage for \$12.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child, aged 5 – 12. Children under 5 years old eat free.

This event is open to the entire community and will include a bake sale. **Proceeds will support Bethel students attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota in June of 2027.**

Northern Great Lakes Synod

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



Multi-Conference Event!

**6TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE INVITED
TO A GRAND GET-TOGETHER AT**

LARRY'S CORN MAZE
(formerly Hayes Corn Maze)

IN ROCK, MICHIGAN

Saturday, October 17
2:30 - 5:30 PM Eastern
(plus travel time)

Join friends from across the Synod!

CONTACT FOR DETAILS AND TO RSVP
Stacy McEachern - (906) 361-9123
(Marquette area)

Stefanie Ehle - youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org
(Marinette/Menominee area)

Pr. Lily Brondyke - pastorlily@bethanyescanaba.org
(Escanaba area)

*The Messenger is given in thanks to God
by Christa Holmstead*

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

In-person Worship: 8 + 10 AM

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.**

