

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church



November 2023

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Member of the ELCA Churchwide elca.org &
the Northern Great Lakes Synod nglsynod.org



Visit us on our Website @
Immanuelrhinelander.org

"Inspired by God's grace to love and serve all"

Message from Interim Pastor John Kuziej

November is a busy month for the church. The altar guild is busy with altar banners frequently changing color, from white to green to white and then blue. The first Sunday is All Saints. We remember our family and friends who have died. We light candles in their memory. There is sadness in the church on that Sunday, but there is the comfort of the congregation as we sing in a familiar hymn, "We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear, and often for each other flows, the sympathizing tear."

There is the comfort of our faith. On All Saints the Christ candle by the baptismal font is lit. Our baptisms proclaim that we have been united with Christ. Throughout our lives we are blessed with the presence of Jesus who gives us the benefits of forgiveness of sins and the promise of victory over death. Because Jesus is risen from the dead and Lord, we are assured that "even though we die, yet shall we live. As Jesus himself said, "Because I live, you too shall live."

Every Sunday we confess, "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the life everlasting." I recall a priest comforting a parishioner who was grieving the loss of a loved one and feeling both alone and even deserted by God. The priest reminded her that we are a part of the Communion of saints. This blest communion comprises both heaven and earth. A loved one dies, and we feel pain, but we commend the loved one to God, "a sheep of God's fold, a sinner of God's redeeming love." Since we are connected to Christ through baptism, we never lose connection to loved ones because nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. The love that holds our loved ones in heaven, holds us still on earth.

All Saints Sunday assures us of the saints in heaven and strengthens the saints here on earth. We usually do not think of ourselves as saints because sometimes our behaviors are downright devilish. The word 'saint' is not just a title. Saint refers to our vocation, our callings by God to be set apart for God's healing work on earth. A few weeks ago, I was shopping at the Eagle River Farmer's Market. I filled up my bags with squash, beets, and carrots. (For the fun of it I bought bunches of red carrots, the farmer said they are sweeter than the usual orange ones.) As I was taking my veggies to the car, the farmer's wife came up to me. She said to me, "you are a priest, aren't you?" She remembered me from a few weeks prior when I showed up at their display with my black cleric shirt. Then she put a \$20 bill in my bag. She told me, "I hope you preach a good sermon". Then she told me of her multiple health issues. Then we had a time of prayer. This little event revealed the work of saints, to comfort, encourage, and build-up one another. Prayer is to enter the eternal love of Jesus Christ, to cast upon him cares and burdens and hopefully know his guardian peace. I did not keep the \$20, if you happen to be wondering. I attended the Episcopal Church that Sunday in Eagle River, and the gift ended up in the collection plate. It was a thank-offering, so there would be no better place than to donate it to the congregation where I worshiped.

In the month of November, we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. I think of a recurring chorus in the Psalms, "O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good and his mercy endures forever." The mercy of God endures, meaning no calamity or human sin can cancel it. The Psalms were familiar with enemies pursuing the people of faith. But faith also trusted God for "his goodness and mercy shall pursue us throughout life." The psalms knew the reality of human rebellion and disobedience, admitting "our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions." Now that is strong mercy, God's utter refusal to give up on us, ever calling us to repentance to heal the soul.

I was having dinner with a friend recently and I was asked to say grace, that is to thank the Lord for the food. I often use the familiar “come Lord Jesus” prayer, short and sweet so we can quickly eat. But that night the prayer was longer, as I said more than thanks for the food. I prayed from the heart about the horrors of war in Israel, Gaza, and the Ukraine. The suffering of so many innocent people reported on the news and burdening the soul. How can we be thankful when the world is so torn by violence. It is an act of faith to be thankful for all that we have. Thanksgiving to God is not an absurdity, but a necessity. Thanksgiving saves us from despair and renews our calling as saints of the Lord. We are the ‘set apart ones’, blessed by the Holy Spirit to protest: protest hateful words with words of encouragement; protesting cruelty with kindness; and protesting hatred with love, love from God, “we love because God first loved us.”

In these November days be comforted by the promise that God will indeed wipe away every tear and swallow up death forever. Remember you are a precious saint, called by God to love one another. Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday, family gatherings around food lovingly prepared and lovingly provided by our gracious God. “Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer, and rejoiced that, rain or sunshine, our God is there?”

A letter from Retired Pastor Tammy Barthels

Greetings! I continue to hold you in my thoughts and prayers as you are in transition. I was called to Immanuel as your pastor from July 2015 to May 2022. In that time I walked with you in your joys and in your sorrows. I baptized, confirmed, married, and buried your loved ones. You were my people and I was your pastor. And I loved you with an everlasting love. But in May 2022 I was released as your pastor. On my last day, during the closing worship we had a ceremony releasing me from the pulpit, the baptismal font, the gathered community, and all the duties that were included with being your pastor. Pastor John was appointed by Bishop Katherine Finnegan to now care for your needs to walk with you in your times of joy and sorrow, to be your pastor in this time of transition. It is not that I no longer care for you, because my heart breaks each time I hear about the death of a loved one, but I am no longer called to be your pastor and am unable to perform the duties I was called to do as your pastor. Please know that I was blessed to be your pastor for a period of time and I will always hold you dear to my heart.

God Bless,
Rev. Tammy Barthels

OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday &
Thursday**

**9:00 am -
NOON**



**THE TUESDAY MORNING CREW MEETS EVERY
TUESDAY MORNING TO PERFORM ODD JOBS
NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH.
PLEASE REACH OUT TO JOHN PLAUTZ
IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP! 715-367-3762
jeplautz@hotmail.com**

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?" —Psalm 22:1

Dear church,

As Lutherans, we are accustomed to holding tension between two truths. Thus the ELCA denounces the egregious acts of Hamas, acts that have led to unspeakable loss of life and hope. At the same time the ELCA denounces the indiscriminate retaliation of Israel against the Palestinian people, both Christian and Muslim.

For the past week we have borne witness to the horrors of the escalating crisis between Israel and Hamas. We also watch a growing humanitarian crisis in Gaza as Israel blocks food, water, fuel and medical supplies and as airstrikes continue to cause unbearable civilian casualties ahead of a just-announced ground assault. We see Israelis and families around the world in the agonizing wait for word about the fate of loved ones killed or taken hostage by Hamas. We are in anguish, grieving and praying for all people who are living in trauma, fear and uncertainty.

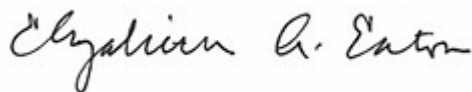
Among us are Palestinian Lutherans who are fearful for their families, their communities and their homeland. In our communities we have Jewish and Muslim neighbors, who are also facing the horrors of this crisis and its impact on their loved ones.

It is difficult to find words that suffice in the complexity of this moment, and in the web of relationships that bind us together, as church, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our interreligious partners. Yet God has called us to be a people who stand with others amid suffering.

We must also call a thing a thing. The power exerted against all Palestinian people — through the occupation, the expansion of settlements and the escalating violence — must be called out as a root cause of what we are witnessing. We are committed to our long-standing accompaniment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

The God who liberates us calls us to be a liberating witness. May it be so.

In Christ,



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Things you can do:

Find updated resources and statements from the ELCA [here](#).

Join our partner Churches for Middle East Peace for prayer every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1 pm. Eastern time. Register [here](#).

Call your lawmakers today through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 and urge them to take action to deescalate the conflict and uphold unrestricted humanitarian aid to Gaza. Find your member of Congress at [govtrak](#).

Support Lutheran Disaster Response [here](#).

You may notice that we sometimes publicize statements and other information from organizations of which we are members. We will never share information that did not go through our internal vetting process, so you should feel free to share such information on behalf of your church.

ACES is Rhinelander's Association of Churches for Emergency Support. It is the gathering of Rhinelander Churches to show the love of Christ in tangible ways to those in need.

The purpose of the Association of Churches for Emergency Support (ACES) is to coordinate emergency aid, utilize a pool of funds, draw a connection between the Rhinelander areas churches and public service agencies, and to divide the administrative tasks that come with providing such aid. In essence, our goal is to see emergency aid delivered to people, who are in need, in the most efficient, effective and Christ-like manner.

Several churches participate in ACES, both through volunteer hours and finances. Any church wishing to join in participation can inquire with the Executive Committee and will be allowed to do so after the committees approval. Membership dues are individually based on the resources of the participating church. Churches participating currently are, Calvary Baptist, Immanuel, Trinity, UCC, Nativity, Grace Foursquare, United Methodist and our newest church partner Saint Augustine.

Churches are responsible to recruit, retain and release competent volunteers to represent ACES and all of its members. That volunteer will handle all calls, issue vouchers, and document interactions of the requests coming into Rhinelander's ACES. Each shift is for two weeks. After the two week period, both the outgoing and incoming church volunteers must meet to verify all paperwork and voucher inventory as well as deliver the phone and current client needs. Training sessions are offered and mandatory for all volunteers. All volunteers will have clear expectations, procedures, and resources to accomplish their integral role.

As of January 2023 ACES is now able to have the volunteers back and proceed with this wonderful ministry. Aces has purchased a smart phone for handling calls from clients. A new procedure has been written to handle clients per phone. It is so much easier to communicate with the clients and handle the calls. There will no longer be face to face contact. This new procedure is now being used.

This quarter the amount of WPS help has remained about the same and ACES and Salvation Army working with Energy Assistance were able to help our clients. The need for rent also increased as there were more evictions given out. This ministry is so needed and so glad we can provide the needed help. ACES does everything possible to not have a client go homeless.

This quarter ACES was able to help with a U-Haul rental, diapers, car repair, pharmacy and furniture. Nativity vouchers were given out for help with furniture and clothing and any other need the client might have. Goodwill cards were depleted and will start again at the beginning of next year.. All WPS were paid by Salvation Army . Most times Salvation Army money will be used for WPS and Rent so ACES money can be used for other various emergency needs.

We did receive 111 calls this quarter and 325 calls for the year. Between ACES and Salvation Army we are doing our best to help these clients. May God continue to keep all safe and well.

It was also decided by the ACES board that as there was available funds ACES donated \$500.00 to NATH and \$500.00 to Tri-County Shelter to be used for Taxi Cab rides. The objective of all these ministries is to help our community so we all work together to do God's work.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry please contact Dianne Syms or Mary Meek. Thank you again for your continued support. Dianne Syms, ACES Treasurer

Warm for Winter

Warm for Winter, a mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Rhinelander, collects new and gently used clothing, shoes, boots, coats, hats, mittens, toys, and bedding.

If you have a need for any of these items, please come to one of the distributions. Everyone is welcome, no questions asked, no income requirements.

Distributions are at Friendly Village located at 900 Boyce Drive on:

Monday, November 13, 2023	4pm to 7pm
Saturday, November 25, 2023	9am to Noon
Monday, December 11, 2023	4pm to 7pm
Saturday, December 30, 2023	9am to Noon
Monday, January 8, 2024	4pm to 7pm
Saturday, January 27, 2024	9am to Noon
Monday, February 12, 2024	4pm to 7pm
Saturday, February 24, 2024	9am to Noon
Monday, March 11, 2024	4pm to 7pm
Saturday, March 30, 2024	9am to Noon



Friendly Village generously provides space for Warm for Winter storage and distributions.

Donations can be placed in the bin outside of First Congregational United Church of Christ at 135 E. Larch Street in Rhinelander or Oneida County Health Department.

For any questions, please refer to Warm for Winter Facebook page or call 608-345-7305.

Pastoral Visits

Immanuel Lutheran Church has welcomed Pastor John Kuziej as our Administrative Interim Pastor. He is happy to schedule visits with home-bound individuals and is also available for hospital visits. Please feel free to contact him if you have these needs. He has office hours at Immanuel on Tuesdays from 10:00 am until noon and is also available by appointment.

Thank You for Serving

Thank you to Brittany Landphier who plays the piano so beautifully for us on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Thank you to The Band for also providing exceptional music.

Thank you to The Choir for also providing us with special music throughout the month.

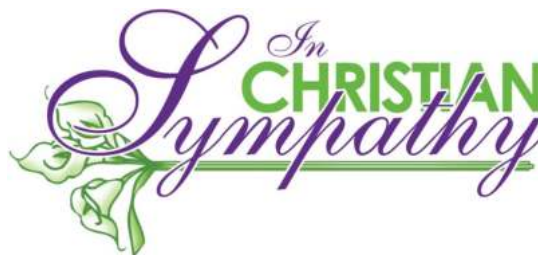
If you have a musical talent you would like to share—join the band, join the choir, or see JoAnne Barrix to provide special music.

Martin Luther said, *"Music is one of the fairest and most glorious gifts of God, to which Satan is a bitter enemy, for it removes from the heart the weight of sorrow, and the fascination of evil thoughts."*

Thank you to all the members of Immanuel who continue to use their gifts and talents to further the kingdom of God. (Especially those who work behind the scenes!)



Our deepest condolences to the family of Fredrick 'Fred' McCue who passed away in October. Cards of condolence may be sent to Melissa, Fred's wife, and their children, Clint, Mariah, and Payton, at 3040 Sorenson Road, Rhinelander, WI 54501.



Dear Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your recent donation of items to our Personal Essential Pantry mission. Your donation of cleaning products and personal care items will be appreciated by our clients. Your generosity goes a long way in helping us be the hands and feet of Jesus as we meet the needs of our community. Thank you for your contribution and compassion.

Sincerely,
The PEP Volunteers

Thank you for your generous donation to the purchase of flowers that enhance downtown and make it a beautiful place for visitors and local friends. Community support like yours makes this popular tradition possible to continue. Your involvement in Downtown Rhinelander is truly appreciated.

Downtown Rhinelander, Inc.



Newsletter Available Electronically

If you would rather read the newsletter electronically, you can access a copy on our website @ immanuelrhinelander.org/newsletter

Thank you to Church Council as we were able to deliver many nice and needed items to NATH Fredrick place. They were very, very happy and thankful. .

Dianne Syms and Priscilla Johnson



Thank you to Gene Frane and Tina Schmitz for delivering the LWR kits to Wausau on October 7, 2023.

With the generous help of the congregation we were able to send 51 school kits and 45 personal care kits. The talents of the quilters put together 101 quilts.

What a wonderful ministry.
Sincerely, Immanuel WELCA



It is that time of year again where we will be making lefse.

The dates this year will be:

Making Potatoes

Wednesday, November 1 and
Friday, November 3



Grilling

Thursday, November 2 and Saturday, November 4

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, but you can also email Dianne Syms at dsyms27@charter.net to sign up. Thank you for this consideration.

This is one of WELCA's biggest fundraisers.



Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Eve Service
at St. Augustine's
39 S. Pelham Street
Wednesday, November 22nd
@ 7:00 pm

The Giving Tree will be up in the Gathering room soon!

Please stop by and choose an ornament or two from the tree and purchase a gift for those in need, the residents of Friendly Village and Heritage House. We will also have envelopes for the backpack program.

PLEASE remember to add your name to the list on the podium next to the ornament number you choose. The gifts need to be wrapped and returned with the ornament attached on or before December 10th !

Thanks from the Outreach Committee

Helping To Build A Hunger-Free Community



Thank you to our September Food Pantry crew for sharing the love of Christ through serving! Volunteering is a great way to show the love of Christ to those in our community.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Darlene Machtan.
Immanuel volunteers the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8:45 am—11:30 am.



EQUITY CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 2023 PIERCING MY PREFERENCE TO AVOID PAINFUL REALITIES ABOUT THANKSGIVING ARE THESE THOUGHTS:

Mark Twain's satirical comments on Thanksgiving: "Thanksgiving Day, a function which originated in New England two or three centuries ago when those people recognized that they really had something to be thankful for—annually, not oftener—if they had succeeded in exterminating their neighbors, the Indians, during the previous twelve months instead of getting exterminated by their neighbors, the Indians. Thanksgiving Day became a habit, for the reason that in the course of time, as the years drifted on, it was perceived that the exterminating had ceased to be mutual and was all on the white man's side, consequently on the Lord's side; hence it was proper to thank the Lord for it and extend the usual annual compliments."

<https://www.patheos.com>

Cultural notions about land led to misunderstandings embodied in treaties between the US government and native American tribes. The Indian Nations believed the treaties gave them the right to remain on the land to live, hunt, fish and grow crops as they always had. Our government believed it owned the land with the right to control its use. President Zachary Taylor (1849-1850) issued an executive order to end tribal rights to use the land, and the Northwest Territorial Legislature called for the removal of the Anishinnaabeg (the Ojibwea, Odawa, and Potawatomi) from Wisconsin and the UP. Payments promised to tribes for furs, timber, and minerals taken by traders were withheld. Ordered to go to Sandy Lake, MN to collect the funds, they waited 6 weeks in the harsh winter without food. Returning home where we now live, many died in **The Wisconsin Death March**. *Seeing Red*, Michael John Witgen, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and University of North Carolina Press, 2022, pp.327-329.

EXPERIENCES FOR WHICH I AM GRATEFUL:

Learning about the Anishinnaabeg through a NGLSynod book group changed my attitude from entitlement to a growing humility about living in the beautiful Northwoods because of the removal of those who lived here before me.

Learning from NGLSynod resources about the Dakota 38, the largest mass execution in U.S. history, that followed convictions for the death of White settlers while fighting to remain on the land that was their home. This leaves me wondering if I would fight and kill when faced with forced removal by a superior military force. This influences me to be more sensitive to the needs of refugees fleeing and having fled from Gaza, Syria, Iran, Central America, to be supportive of the ELCAs Immigration and Refugee Services, to admire congregations who dare to adopt, shelter, and support refugees.

Learning about Indian boarding schools of the 1950s, isolating children from their families, friends, and community of support, the cutting of their hair, symbolic of strength, power, and the prohibition of speaking their native language enforced by isolation and hunger...How would I react if my children were taken from me at a young age, taught a foreign language, and had symbols of my faith banished. Would I turn to alcohol, drugs, and be depressed to deaden the pain?

I am grateful for our Immanuel church Family and our Synod people who want to imitate Christ, to have "the same mind ... that was in Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:4-5. I am thankful for people and resources who help me become more like Christ, more compassionate, more loving, more honest, leaving behind what I learned in school: Indians are hostile! While I enjoy good company and food on Thanksgiving Day, it is with a more somber and humble attitude, more like Christ would want me to be.

Submitted by Susan Anderson

Did You Know?....

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22:37b-39

Here we are already in November. That also means that it is time again for the Fall Stewardship Emphasis. We have so much going on at Immanuel. Celebration of Confirmation, First Communion and Reformation on October 29th, and then All Saints Day on November 5th . Stewardship Sunday will be on November 12th. It seems like there are not enough Sundays to squeeze everything in before Gun Deer hunting and Thanksgiving and then we are in the Season of Advent. Whew!

The theme for our Stewardship Emphasis is “You Are Mine.” Some of the words of the song include: “I will lift you up from all your fear.” “I will be your light.” “I am the peace the world cannot give.” “I have called you each by name.” “I am with you.” “I love you and you are mine.” Indeed, we are His and He calls us to love Him and our neighbor.

In response to all that He does for us, we are called to carry out ministries to our neighbors. To do this we need to give of our time, talents and finances. Many of us have been blessed with more than we need. There are also, many neighbors in our community, country and world that do not have enough.

You will be receiving a Time and Talent Form and Estimate of Giving in the mail a couple of weeks before Stewardship Sunday. Please take the time to consider how your time and talents can support and grow Immanuel's ministries and how your offerings of money supply the resources that are needed. When we return to the Lord what he has first provided for us, we grow in faith. Remember His promise: “You are mine.”

....This is Stewardship!

By JoAnne Barrix



NATH - Frederick Place

Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing

"I was a stranger and you invited me in..." -- Matthew 25:35 NIV

NATH is committed to ending and preventing homelessness. This corporation exists to provide safe housing and basic needs to families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

NATH WISH LIST

Postage Stamps – Standard First-Class Letter
Laundry Detergent
Dryer Sheets
Dishwasher Detergent
13 Gallon Garbage Bags
30 Gallon Garbage Bags
Toilet Bowl Cleaner
All Purpose Cleaner
Window Cleaner
Comet
Bleach
Wash Cloths
Swiffer Wet Pads
Disposable Gloves-All Sizes

Household items are given to residents when they leave Frederick Place so they have to be replaced often.

NATH MEALS

Our ministry groups have been providing the monthly NATH (Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing) meals and this has been working well.

All meals for 2023 have been covered—thank you! Please consider signing your group up to provide a meal in 2024!

To volunteer, please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex or you can call Sue Larsen at 715-362-2544. Thank you for your cooperation in this ministry!

NAMI Northern Lakes

Providing support, education and advocacy for people living with mental illness and their families in Forest, Oneida, and Vilas Counties. Monthly meetings: open to anyone; 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. at First Methodist Church, Rhinelander. Northern Lakes Center located in Trinity Lutheran Church, Rhinelander.

OUR HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY 11:00 am TO 3:00 pm.

Please call Linda at [715-420-1700](tel:715-420-1700) or e-mail at northernlakescenter@gmail.com if you are in need of anything.



Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes

September 13th , 2023

Hybrid Meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

Attendees: Joanne Barrix, Linda Kau, Kristine Mladucky, Tina Schmitz, Charlie Strong, Glenn Johnson, Christy Dellenbach and Pastor John.

Absent: Brian Willoughby, Mary Wolf, John Plautz, Richard Laddusire

Devotions: Tina – “Life is a box of crayons”

Meeting minutes from August 9 th , 2023 were approved as printed.

Pastor/Ministry Report:

1. Funeral September 1st for Thomas J. Montgomery
2. Attending Headwaters Conference Mtg at Ascension Lutheran Church, Minocqua on 10/15/2023
3. Attending an Ecumenical Meeting 9/23/2023 regarding a Thanksgiving Service. Discussed willingness to host the service depending on if we could get live music assistance with piano or organ.
4. Will be leading First Communion retreat on Saturday, October 28, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Instruction for 2 students (Broden Kornhorst and Haven Willoughby)
5. Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner, is in the process of leaving the E.L.C.A., because of this, Karen Carter will be unavailable as pulpit supply.

Long Term Items:

1. Make Disciples: Teach and Baptize (3x/yr.): Confirmation, Sunday school, Faith Explorers, and 9/17/2023 Rally Sunday.
2. Seek full participation of members in Disciple-Making, Witnessing and Caring Ministries (quarterly): Food Pantry (on 9/9/2023 served 48), had visitors who participated in our potluck and service.
3. Seek and encourage people to prep for church careers (semi-annually): Matt Johnson, and “Answer the call” Sunday 9/10/2023 (see details below). Our synod does provide financial aid.

Short Term Items:

Old Business

1. Call Committee Update: no action at this time.
2. Facilities Update: Down payment of \$21,800.00 made to Kimmons, weather will Determine start date. The following are in need of help: foundation calking, pruning of trees, and rotting boards by the garden need to be replaced.
3. God’s Work our Hands: Great pot luck, THANK YOU for all who participated in sprucing up the church. There were questions regarding organizing the back room and how to manage books, supplies, etc. Kristine will contact Becky and/or Sarah for more direction.
4. Answer the Call response: \$311 was collected.

5. Donation to Personal Essentials Pantry: Glen & Pricilla Johnson donated a \$250 gift card through Thrivent. In addition we used \$256 of the \$500 (balance of \$244) for additional supplies. The Personal Essentials Pantry was very happy with the donations.

Action, Motion/Second/carried... Unanimous approval to amend \$500 for Personal Essentials, and distribute the remaining \$244 to NATH for essentials needed.

New Business:

1. Confirmation materials recommendation from Stewardship per request from Allie Johnson to use the "Collaborate" curriculum for confirmation at \$285.87.
2. Randy on vacation: 9/23/2023 to 10/12/2023: Need awareness to help out as needed (check bathrooms, stock items if needed, covering special events, etc.). Isaiah Willoughby and Sheree Vanden Heuvel expressed willingness to help out.
3. Youth Gathering (New Orleans, July 16-20, 2024) registration fee of \$3750 for 5 youth, and 5 adults will be made on 9/16/2023
4. Outdoor signage discussion. Will look into costs/updates of possible improved signage. Possibilities include: adding E.L.C.A. to our outside signage and in our bulletin, stating our Mission statement of "Inspired by God's Grace to Love and serve all" as an outside banner or flag...input is encouraged and welcomed!

Motion for Adjournment at 6:58 pm

Closing Prayer: Tina

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristine G. Mladucky
Secretary

Open/ Close/Devotions:

October: Rich

November:

NATH meals:

September - Mary Peterson

October - Youth and Education

November - Band

December - ?

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

At Lutheran World Relief, we envision a future where all people, in every corner of the world can live full, dignified lives. Founded by Lutherans in the United States at the end of World War II, grounded in Lutheran theology and building on decades of experience, Lutheran World Relief tackles global poverty by helping people adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being.

We work with people based on need, regardless of race, religion or nationality and we do not evangelize. We provide aid in emergencies and help families restore their lives. We partner with communities to build and grow rural economies. We break the cycle of poverty, so families and communities can thrive. Our goal is to help people build self-sufficiency and create new community-owned approaches to problem-solving that will last long after our projects end.

Our History

In 1945, World War II left an estimated one-fifth of the world's Lutherans homeless. Here in the United States, Lutheran churches in at least 20 states mobilized to help in Europe through a new agency called Lutheran World Relief. Much has changed in nearly 75 years. But in thousands of congregations, in millions of offerings and in uncounted prayers, U.S. Lutherans continue to support Lutheran World Relief's work. Lutheran World Relief was there in the late 1940s, when 800,000 Palestinians were forced from their homes by the creation of the state of Israel ... in the early 1950s when Hong Kong, Korea and Bangladesh and much of Asia was mired in strife ... during the 1970s and '80s, when civil wars and drought plagued Africa. Today, Lutheran World Relief operates in East and West Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East, helping some of the world's poorest communities build the resilience they need to thrive.

When a disaster hits — whether it's a drought, tsunami or civil war — Lutheran World Relief works over months and years to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to help people recover and adjust to new realities. Natural disasters and conflict-driven emergencies ravage the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people each year. While emergencies affect people at all societal and economic levels, the world's poorest suffer the most because they have the fewest resources to prepare for a crisis and the fewest resources to rebuild afterward. We work hand in hand with vulnerable communities to help rebuild after disaster strikes as well as avoid or prepare for future disasters. In the days and weeks after a disaster, we are on the ground helping to meet people's immediate needs. And in the months and years following, we are dedicated to working with them to ensure that they can rebuild better and stronger than before.

Your gift today will reach your neighbors with the very least who are living in some of the most remote and forsaken regions of the world. **Thank you for giving generously to save and change lives.**

Donate by Phone

Please call 1.800.597.5972 to make your secure credit card donation.

Donate by Mail

Please make checks payable to Lutheran World Relief and mail to:

Lutheran World Relief

PO Box 17061

Baltimore, MD 21297-1061

Donations must be postmarked on or before December 31 to be deductible for the current tax year.



THE COMMUNITY
BLOOD CENTER

connecting lives | sharing life

BRAD

Proud dad. Loves baseball,
music and really good coffee.

Received blood, platelets
and bone marrow.
Relied on donors like you.

Donate blood today!

**IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
BLOOD DRIVE**

21 W Timber Drive, Rhinelander, WI 54501

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

To schedule your donation, please contact
Jackie Waldorf at (715) 482-0513.
We kindly request you register in advance.
Thank you!

November 2023

Immanuel Lutheran Church 715-362-5910
21 W Timber Drive, Rhinelander

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
		<p>THE TUESDAY MORNING CREW MEETS EVERY TUESDAY TO DO ODD JOBS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH. PLEASE REACH OUT TO JOHN PLAUTZ IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP! 715-367-3762 jeplautz@hotmail.com</p>	<p>1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>6:00 pm Confirmation Class</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>LEFSE MAKING POTATOES</p> </div>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p> <p>MEMORY CAFÉ 10:30 am—Noon</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>LEFSE GRILLING</p> </div>	<p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>LEFSE MAKING POTATOES</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>LEFSE GRILLING</p> </div>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>9:00 am Worship Communion Choir Practice to follow</p> <p>Worship Leader: Rev. John Kuziej</p> <p>10:00 am Faith Explorers</p>	<p>7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon</p>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p> <p>PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10:00 am —NOON</p> <p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p> <p>5:00 pm Stewardship</p>	<p>10:00 am WELCA Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>6:00 pm Council</p>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p>	<p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA</p>	<p>8:45 am— 11:30 am Food Pantry</p>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>Worship Leader: Matthew Johnson</p> <p>10:00 am Faith Explorers</p>	<p>7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Newsletter Articles Due!!!</p> </div>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p> <p>PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10:00 am —NOON</p> <p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p>	<p>1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>6:00 pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p>	<p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA</p>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>9:00 am Worship Communion</p> <p>Worship Leader: Rev. Paul Heykes</p> <p>10:00 am Faith Explorers</p>	<p>7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon</p>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p> <p>PASTOR JOHN Rennes Nursing Home Service</p> <p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p>	<p>1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>4:30 pm Meal @ Frederick Place</p> <p>7:00 pm ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S</p>	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</p>	<p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA</p>	
26	27	28	29	30		
<p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>Worship Leader: Rev. John Kuziej</p> <p>10:00 am Faith Explorers</p>	<p>7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon</p>	<p>OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON</p> <p>PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10:00 am —NOON</p> <p>BLOOD DRIVE</p> <p>8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group</p>				

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

September 2023

GENERAL FUND:

Beginning Balance	\$70,677.59
Offerings	\$11,699.95
\$1,722.10 moved to Building Fund	
Expenses	(\$ 8,292.11)
Ending Balance	\$74,085.43

BENEVOLENCE:

September Offering	\$ 1,209.29
Plus Answer the Call \$506.00/ LSS \$5.00)	
2022 Pledge	\$19,000.00
YTD Remittance	\$13,163.48

BUILDING FUND:

Beginning Balance	\$49,134.18
Offerings	\$ 1,722.10
Expenses	\$21,954.74
Ending Balance	\$28,901.54

**INCOME exceeded the
EXPENSES by \$3,407.84**



11/3	Anna Wood	11/22	Paul Ehlers
11/6	Trudy Houlihan	11/22	Sue Kirby
11/9	JoAnne Barrix	11/23	Rae Anne Cheslock
11/9	Payton McCue	11/23	Bob Williams
11/10	Gabriella Denis	11/27	Tommy Eades
11/18	Katherine Grulke	11/27	Angie Schulz
11/19	Lisa Kroll	11/28	Laura Borski
11/20	Lois Wallace	11/28	Megan Helgeson
11/21	Arlo Keckeisen	11/28	Sarah Willoughby
11/21	Jolene Schlieve	11/29	Susanne Ohman



11/10	Nick & Shirley Scholtes
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August and September Attendance:

	In-person	Online	Total
08/06	48	0	48
	Outdoor Worship - No Livestream		
08/13	36	86	122
08/20	38	54	92
08/27	40	86	126

Our average worship attendance for the month of August was 97.

09/03	41	138	179
09/10	41	120	161
09/17	42	110	152
09/24	42	90	132

Our average worship attendance for the month of September was 156.

May Your Day Be Special!

If you were omitted or listed in error, please contact the church office at 715-362-5910. Thank you!

IMMANUEL'S MESSENGER

21 West Timber Drive
Rhineland, WI 54501

Electronic Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rhineland, WI
PERMIT NO. 194

**Join us for
in-person worship
Sundays at 9:00 am
All are Welcome!**

Or join online

- 1) Through YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYfWH9caWNuzOxf9T9JgecQ> (or search Immanuel Rhineland) on YouTube.
- 2) Through our website: www.immanuelrhineland.org/worship (you'll also find the bulletin and lessons here).
- 3) Through our phone app. Just click on the "worship" button at the bottom of the screen.

The live stream will begin at about 8:55.