

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church



September 2022

Page 2—Message from Interim
Pastor John Kuziej

Page 3—School Supplies Collection

Page 4—Message from Bishop
Katherine Finegan

Page 5—Youth Fundraiser

Page 6—Chairs for Sale, Paintings for Free

Page 7—Thank you's, Sympathies

Page 8—Council Minutes

Page 9—Memory Café and Lawn Mowing
Volunteers Needed

Page 10—Ecumenical Music Fest at Nativity
God's Work, Our Hands

Page 11—Lutheran Disaster Relief

Page 12—Message from Bishop Eaton

Page 13—Equity Challenge

Page 14—Rhineland Area Food Pantry

Page 15—Harvest Hoedown

Page 16—This is Stewardship!

Page 17—NATH and NAMI Notes

Page 18—Calendar

Page 19—Birthdays, Financial Summary,
Attendance, Anniversaries

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the Northern Great Lakes Synod nglsynod.org



Visit us on our Website @
Immanuelrhineland.org

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

Message from Interim Pastor John Kuziej

The men's Bible study group was discussing Sunday's gospel reading. The reading from the Gospel of Luke began when a disciple asked Jesus to teach them to pray. What followed were the familiar words of the Lord's Prayer. A question arose around the familiar words of "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." But we read from our Bibles which gave a different reading, "Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us." If we read the passage in Matthew's gospel it says, "Forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors."

The question had to do with the word "debt" and "debtors". Just what did debt and debtors have to do with sins or trespasses? The one with the question thought of finances when he heard "debt". Possibly he did not want to forgive or write-off someone who owed him money! But in the time of Jesus, the rabbis or teachers thought of sins against God as debt. Thinking of sin in such a way may cause us to appreciate and be thankful for God's grace. Perhaps you have known the stress of debt. Think of people who have lost their jobs and cannot pay the mortgage. Think of young men and women who finished college with enormous student loan debt they may carry for years. Think of those folks who have fallen into the deep hole of high interest credit card debt. Some may feel they will never be free from such worry and burden. Debt is on the mind all the time.

Comparing sin to debt can sound confusing. But what if we thought of sin as wasting all the goodness and love of God with lives of selfishness and apathy toward the pain of others. We have an example from one of Jesus' parables. The parable of the Prodigal Son told of a son who demanded money—his inheritance—from his Father, so he could walk out on his responsibilities. So he took the money and soon blew away every cent and became destitute. When he headed home he realized his debt in terms of the shame he caused his family. He did not owe any money since the money he wasted was his own. But he felt he could never repay the hurt he caused his father. He even confessed "I am no longer worthy to be called your son". He asked to be treated like a hired hand as if he could work off the shame he caused.

But how can one repay the shame and pain caused by selfish behavior? The Father knew that and forgave his son's debt by receiving him back fully as a member of the family. The elder brother in the story protested such magnanimity, preferring instead to keep hammering home the wasted money and loss. But the Father countered with what the power of forgiveness accomplishes: "your brother was lost but now is found, he was dead but is now alive."

How could we ever repay the debt owed to God for our failures to take care of one another and this planet we call home? It is not that we have forgotten to live as children of God, for we have willfully rebelled. We are no longer worthy to be called children of God. But God, in mercy and great compassion, would never accept such a judgment. Jesus came to call us to repentance which is first of all to return to God who cancels the debt of sin. This took place at the cross, as Scripture says, "And you, who were dead in your trespasses...God made alive together with Jesus, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us....This God set aside, nailing it to the cross." We have been given the Holy Spirit who is ever busy with gracious work, reminding us we are children of God, no longer enslaved to fear, and as Luther says, "daily abundantly forgiving all sins, mine and those of all believers."

Clarification came in the Bible study when the text was read from another version of the Bible, "Release us from the things we have done wrong in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us." Whether we say "sin", "trespass", or "debt" there is powerful grace with the word "forgiveness". In the Bible the fundamental meaning of the word "forgive" is to "release": release from debt, release from guilt, release from the burden of worry if God will not forgive for some reasons we may imagine. If we need a burden of proof, just look to Jesus, "in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

Now that we have been released from guilt and judgment through forgiveness, we pray that we forgive one another. In the 18th chapter of Matthew Jesus taught his disciples "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." The context for this promise is members of the church seeking peaceful resolution of conflicts for the goal of reconciliation. Jesus then told a parable about a servant who owed the king a "gazillion" dollars. The only recourse was to sell him and his family into slavery for at least some sort of settlement. But the servant begged for mercy and the king had compassion on him. So the king released the servant and forgave the entire huge debt. But then that same servant demanded payment of a small debt from a fellow servant. The demand was meant, and when the fellow servant could not pay, he was sent to some sort of debtor's prison. When the king heard of this, he recalled the servant he previously forgave. The king called him "wicked" saying "I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant?" And so Jesus' point is clear. Since God has forgiven all our debt, sin, and trespasses, should that not create gratitude and a new heart of mercy, a heart of forgiveness for others? True enough forgiving someone who hurt you who shows no repentance, no remorse, or no interest in reconciliation may not be possible. But if someone who hurt you does not want forgiveness, you do not want to become resentful with a bitterness that spoils the goodness and love around you. And all we may be able to do is trust Jesus and leave matters in his hands, and seek the comfort and healing of the Holy Spirit for yourself.

Our daily walk with Jesus is a life assured of his forgiveness and support. He daily calls us to repentance never to bawl us out for sins, but to forgive, cancel the debt, release from guilt, and restore for us the joy of salvation.

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday & Thursday
9 AM - NOON



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Immanuel will be collecting school supplies again this year. The supply list is in the narthex. There is a basket in the narthex you can put them in. Any questions you can contact Dianne Syms @ 920-517-6148.



10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

~Psalm 51:10-12



Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

For two and a half years, my husband and I successfully avoided contracting COVID-19. We wore masks, stayed away

from gatherings, quarantined after a suspected exposure, and basically did what we were supposed to do to avoid getting the virus. And we were successful...until this month. It started with a tickle in the throat, then came the fever and chills, then the difficult decision of whether to nap on the couch or sit in the chair or just go to bed. As of this writing, we have emerged from our COVID cave and are now back amongst the living...sort of. We are still moving slow. Processing thought or coming up with complete sentences is still a challenge. As many people who have had COVID-19 will tell you, a kind of fog settles in, like a congestion of the brain.

But enough of that. I write to share with you some wonderings about COVID-19 and the Church. It is no secret that people are tired, but until I contracted COVID, I hadn't really considered its physical toll and its impact on ministry. I believe we have all witnessed how COVID-19 has impacted our spirits, our

emotions, our sense of community, and a certain heightened anxiety about what all this means. But physically...no wonder volunteerism is at an historic low! When even brushing one's teeth or making supper expends all energy reserves, I can see why there's not much strength left to lead Vacation Bible School, take a turn for the Altar Guild, or sing in the choir. Such extra activity, at least for a time, is truly beyond one's physical capacity.

And yet, this too shall pass. Energy will return. Creativity and strength and the resolve to contribute will slowly but surely gain momentum in my body and spirit. And not just for me, but for us, and our efforts together as congregations and as a synod together.

It seems to me that we are collectively in this space of healing, waiting for restoration and renewal. Whether or not you have had to deal with the physical impact of COVID-19, I think we are all painfully aware of a certain dis-ease. People continue to be polarized concerning social and political issues. Some notice that in-person worship attendance or giving has not returned to pre-pandemic levels and we wonder what that means for the future of our church. We talk about wanting to move forward and yet long to be back where we were, which if we are honest, was still a place of decline and anxiety.

So where does that leave us? In truth, I believe we are still where we have always been, invited to participate in what God is doing in the world. I remind you and myself of what intellectually we already know, but

perhaps emotionally and spiritually are challenged to own, that our Church, and your church, belong to God. And the body of Christ that you are a part of lives and breathes because God would have it be so. We rely on God to put in us a new and right spirit. We rely on the Holy Spirit to show us the way, to energize our efforts, and focus our mission to further the work of Christ.

In these days of healing and discernment, as we wait for renewal and even joy, I know that momentum is building. Congregations are considering their next steps, new plans for ministry are being made, people are emerging from isolation hungry for community and meaningful spiritual connection. As the Body of Christ in the world, we have something of value to offer. Whether your congregation provides an opportunity for deeper engagement or simply gives permission to be still and receive a word of hope and healing, the Church, your church, is meant to be a blessing.

May God bless you with the joy of salvation and sustain you with a willing spirit.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

Isaiah Willoughby Cross Welds Faith, Form, and Function

Last winter the youth and parents were brainstorming ideas to raise funds to attend the national youth gathering in July. Sarah and Isaiah Willoughby stumbled across the idea of making crosses with railroad spikes and realized this would be a great way for Isaiah to use his talents to benefit the group.

This spring it was announced the youth gathering was cancelled due to COVID concerns. Isaiah still wanted to go ahead with the fundraising for the youth fund and for the gathering in 2024 in New Orleans. The last two Sundays he has brought the crosses and displayed them after church in the gathering room.

The cost of the crosses is \$50 and 50% will be put into the youth fund to support those that want to attend the youth gathering. If you are interested in one, you can grab one after worship, stop by the church during office hours, or contact the Willoughbys at 715-550-5557.





Paintings for Free Chairs for Donations

We have been doing some “Spring Cleaning” and would like to make some items available to our congregation. We have some original paintings that are free to those that would like them. We also have many metal folding chairs. If you would have a need for the chairs we would accept donations. Contact Kari in the church office or any council member.



Thank You for Serving

Thank you to JoAnne Barrix for filling in the office when our administrative assistant, Kari, is on vacation.

Thank you to Deb Rinka and Kathy Maule for taking care of our plants and flowers.

Thank you to our quilters for using your gifts and talents to provide warmth for those in need.

Thank you to our Council members and especially our president, Darlene Machtan, for providing direction during this interim period.

Thank you to our prayer chain partners for lifting up those in need in prayer.

Thank you to Dianne Syms for organizing the collection of school supplies.

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!)



With deepest thanks.....

Thank you to everyone for your prayers for my daughter, Sara, she is doing very well. Your prayers are much appreciated. Deb Rinka

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.



Our deepest condolences to the family of June Wiedeman, sister of Joanne O'Brien, who passed away in early August. Cards of condolence may be sent to Joanne at 3912 Highway 47 North, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

Newsletter Available Electronically

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

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting Minutes: July 13, 2022

Council Members Present: Secretary: JoAnne Barrix, Tina Schmitz, Christy Dellenbach, Glenn Johnson, Fred McCue, Deb Rinka, Keith Snyder, Kristine Mladucky, Pastor John Kuziej

Opening

JoAnne Barrix opened the in person meeting at 6:00 PM.

Devotion by Mary: Read by JoAnne – Enjoy your friendship with God

Action – Motion/Second/Carried... Approved the minutes from the June 8, 2022 council meeting with two abstentions.

Pastor's Report: Pastor John has arranged pulpit supply through the month of August. He has also done one hospital visit and four shut-in visits. He hopes that our congregation knows that he can be contacted and is available for pastoral visits.

Long-Term Items:

Care for (Love) One Another: Fellowship, Serve, Give (3xyear): Meals for NATH house by committees are going well. Food Pantry volunteers continue to serve. There was discussion about the changes in “Gig for God.”

Evaluate ministry (semi-annually): There have been favorable comments about having different worship leaders. Music is going well since we do have a lot recorded. Live stream volunteers are keeping the live stream going.

Administer and oversee financial affairs and budget (quarterly): JoAnne pointed out some changes in monthly expenses for the month of June.

Short-Term Items:

Old Business:

Progress on paintings, bell, and other items: Glenn reported that he is still working on the bell and floor cleaner. We have many metal folding chairs that we will make available to members for a donation. Some of the paintings have been taken. Others are still available for anyone that would like them.

Pianist/organist and IT position update: no movement on either position

Administrative assistant credit card: Kari does not yet have a card but it is in the works.

New Business:

Covid Update: JoAnne has been in touch with the members of the covid team and since our area is in a moderate infection rate, the team advised to leave things as they are. After much discussion the council

Action – Motion/Second/Carried...the social distancing ribbons could be removed and that we would talk more about “coffee and” at the September meeting.

Call committee approval: Kevin Kirby, Cory Dellenbach, Brian Willoughby, JoAnne Barrix, Kristine Mladucky, Kathy Maule and non-voting youth rep: Isaiah Willoughby; **Action – Motion/Second/Carried...** Approve these members as a call committee.

Fortune Lake One Wonderful Day: There was a request from Fortune Lake that congregations provide in-person ticket sales for this event. Since the time is so short before the information would need to be turned back in we decided that members could go on line to buy their tickets.

Live Stream volunteer updates and schedule: More people are learning the process and coming forward to help out.

NATH meals schedule: Stewardship is in charge of the July meal and Worship and Music will be in charge of August meal. Those groups that have not served will be contacted by Sue Larson to sign up for future months.

Open/close schedule: August: Tina and JoAnne, September: Mary, October: Fred, November: Charlie, December: open.

Devotion schedule: August: JoAnne, September: Kristine, October: Deb, November: Keith, December: open

Comments and Committee Actions:

It was suggested that the Call Committee look into attending a program offered by the Synod called Faithfull Innovations. The committee will meet and decide on this.

Adjournment: Action – Motion/Second/Carried...Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM following the closing prayer.

Closing Prayer: read by JoAnne: Have courage to engage with those in the community and for Matt Johnson as he attends churchwide assembly.

Respectfully Submitted,
JoAnne Barrix, Council Secretary

Memory Cafe in Need of Volunteers to Resume Services

Another opportunity to continue God's Work With Our Hands is the reestablishment of Memory Cafe, previously hosted by Immanuel and on hiatus since COVID. It has received new funding and is looking for a host site and volunteers to run the once-a-month meetings.

If you are interested in organizing this ministry, please contact Outreach Committee members Cory Dellenbach, Jackie Waldorf, or me. We are spread too thin to take this on ourselves but are certainly able to provide others with more information and support.

Darlene Machtan, Council President

LAWN MOWING

**WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS
TO MOW THE LAWN IN
SEPTEMBER AND
OCTOBER**

**PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE
SHEET IN THE
NARTHEX OR CALL THE
OFFICE AT 715-362-5910.
THANK YOU FOR SERVING!**



Nativity Hosts Ecumenical Music Fest October 9

Nativity of Our Lord is hosting its variation of Gig for God called Joyful Song Ecumenical Music Fest October 9, from 2-4:30 p.m. It will be indoors, and a good will offering chili and cornbread supper will follow. All proceeds will be divided equally among Northern Lakes National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), Lily's House domestic violence shelter, and Boy's and Girl's Club of Rhinelander. Individual musicians or groups of any size are invited to perform. For further information, contact Mary Bloch at blochmary@gmail.com.

Immanuel hopes to be well represented with our musicians. Save the date, and stay tuned (pun intended, of course)!

Darlene Machtan



C'mon, Represent Your Immanuel Faith September 11!

September 11 is God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.

You, your family, and friends are encouraged to use your hands outside the walls of the church to do God's work. How? The possibilities are limitless.

*Volunteer or contribute to the food pantry, Frederick House, Ruby's Pantry, the Personal Essentials Pantry, the Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence, the Animal Shelter, or any of the myriad local social welfare organizations.

*Help an elderly or disabled neighbor with a household or yard project.

*Visit, call, or write a lonely shut-in or someone in assisted living. You don't have to know them to brighten their day.

*Care for God's creation by picking up litter, planting a tree, improving habitat, volunteering at the Community Garden, removing invasive species, etc.

*Take a household inventory and make changes to reduce your energy consumption.

*Do one or more random acts of kindness.

*Clean out your closet and donate gently used items to those in need.

I came up with that list in less than 10 minutes. There are countless more ways to improve the quality of the lives of those around you. Pick at least one and take a picture to share on our Immanuel bulletin board and in our October newsletter. Use your imagination, and then just do it. And remember, God's Work doesn't end September 11, but it's a good start.

Darlene Machtan, Council President



A PRAYER FOR 9/11

Almighty God,
Even as the painful memories of 9/11 are seared into
our hearts,
We yet hold fast to the hope that even now springs forth
from the ashes.
We pray for those still suffering from loss or injury
As a result of the tragic events of that day.
Let us never forget those who risked or lost their lives to
save others.
Their sacrifices and love represent the best in humanity,
And the path to which Christ still calls each of us.
As we continue to mourn those who died, may we honor
them by being loving neighbors to all
Toward building a lasting peace through Christ Jesus.
Amen.

A Prayer for Cancer Patients

Heavenly Father, I come to you today to
ask for your healing touch around the
world for all cancer patients. For those
who are in beds, sitting in a doctor's
office or cherishing this moment with
those they love. I pray for your
ministering angels to surround them in
hope and the peace that surpasses all
understanding. May they experience your
love and your wholeness in their life
today. We ask in the name of Jesus for
renewed strength and complete
restoration. Amen.



www.lindakuhar.com

Situation Report: Ukraine and Eastern Europe

More than four months after Russian troops invaded Ukraine, fighting continues to intensify and humanitarian conditions continue to deteriorate. The United Nations estimates that at least 24 million people — more than half of Ukraine's population — will need humanitarian assistance in the coming months. In addition to continuing to meet the immediate needs of arriving refugees, our partners in the region support those fleeing the violence in Ukraine and provide assistance in psychosocial care, pastoral care, housing, job searches, language study, school admission, legal services, cash assistance and other key integration support for individuals and families. Read the full situation report from Lutheran Disaster Response at blogs.elca.org/disasterresponse/.

Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

U.S. Flooding

Horn of Africa Drought

U.S. Tornadoes

Eastern Europe Crisis Response

U.S. Wildfires

Hurricane Response

Haiti Crisis

Afghan Humanitarian Crisis

U.S. Severe Storms

Middle East Crisis

South Sudan Relief

Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis

AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors

Like Lutheran Disaster Response on Facebook, follow @ELCALDR on Twitter and follow @ELCA_LDR on Instagram. Sign up online to receive Lutheran Disaster Response alerts @ elca.org/disaster.

Can We Answer the Question ‘Why’? By Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop



Once for continuing education I signed up for an introduction to philosophy course at the community college. I was a music education major in college and never had any philosophy courses. Since philosophy and theology are so closely related, I thought it was about time that I became better acquainted with the Western philosophical tradition. So off I went to learn how the great philosophers have addressed the questions of human existence.

It was an interesting experience. As we marched through the centuries of Western philosophy, it seemed that the philosophers changed the approach to addressing the “big questions”—meaning, transcendence, suffering, the role of the will. The whole process was led by a professor who described himself as a lapsed Mormon who, I believe, never quite made it out of the protest milieu of the 1960s.

This convergence of a professor working through the rejection of his tradition and the philosophical systems that paid more attention to “how” versus “why” was uncomfortable. I didn’t buy into determinism, especially when one student used it to explain a rather unfortunate choice that involved drinking and driving (no one was injured). What was a Lutheran girl to do?

My chance came when the professor assigned a paper to be written about our understanding of any of the philosophies covered in class. I dove in. This was an extra credit assignment designed to give a second chance to those who were in some danger of not passing the course. As I was not in that category, I immediately became one of “those students” (I’m sure my classmates used earthier language).

If we can’t answer this question clearly and with conviction, I don’t see a lot of change for us.

I titled my paper “How or Why: Newtonian Mechanics vs. A Quantum Metaphysics.” Pretty much over the top, but I was on a mission. I wanted to make the point to my professor that there is more in life than the “how” of things, that there is meaning and transcendence even if we can’t by reason or human understanding perceive it. I wanted to give witness to my conviction that there is more going on than a life of just mechanics and technique on the way to some deterministic conclusion. And I wanted to point to the truth I had experienced—that there is a loving and relational being who cares about us and about the creation.

Needless to say the professor was mystified by the amount of effort I put into the project, and he did take five points off because I used a contraction. But the point then, as it is now, is that we as a culture and a church have become proficient at talking about the “how” of things. For the church this means “how” has become the question that determines where we focus, how we live, where we allocate resources. We have developed programs—beautiful programs—on how to do Christian education, worship, stewardship, advocacy, justice, evangelism, global ministry and youth ministry. Don’t neglect any of these.

But can we, as a church, answer the question why?

As we engage in conversation about the future direction and priorities of this church this year, this is the question we must answer. If we can’t answer this question clearly and with conviction, I don’t see a lot of change for us.

In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther gives us some direction: “I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also true human being, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.”

This is most certainly true.

This column is a reprint from April 2016.

EQUITY CHALLENGE

NOW IS THE TIME...TO UNDERSTAND THE AFTERMATH OF THE CIVIL WAR

The Old South depended on the free labor of slaves to create the richest aristocracy in the world before the Civil War freed those 4 million Black slaves. (*PBS.org/Mercy Street/Behind the Lens/ A History in Pictures*). The PBS documentary, *Slavery By Another Name*, describes Blacks as wanting the freedom to have their own churches, not sit in the balcony of white churches, of desiring good schools, the freedom to marry, a stable family life without members being sold away to other plantations, the freedom to vote, hold public office, and to move about freely in the world without fear of being lynched for allegedly looking at a white woman, and wanting the right to own land.

Our white male ancestors had all these opportunities and more, giving us confidence in ourselves and the American Dream as attainable. But although the 14th Amendment affirmed the citizenship of all people and the 15th Amendment gave Black men the right to vote, white resistance took hold to save the South's economy. This happened through criminal laws of vagrancy and civil laws of debt that imposed jail sentences for being in one place (like sitting on a park bench) for "too long" or not paying a white store owner claiming, often wrongly, that money was owed. These practices, along with other methods, yielded long jail sentences, effectively stealing the American Dream from Blacks, keeping free labor available by "convict" leasing to sustain the cotton and tobacco trade. (*Slavery By Another Name. Ibid.*)

To add insult to these methods of continuing free labor, enslavers were paid \$300 per "freed" slave, an equivalent of \$54,797 for an unskilled worker in today's dollars. Measuring Worth.com. The smallest farms had 10 slaves, the largest had over 1000, so payments with tax payer dollars ranged from \$547,970 to \$5,479,000 on today's market. SLAVES WERE PAID NOTHING FOR ALL THE YEARS OF HARSH LABOR. Although the idea of reparations is discomforting to some, including myself, back pay for an unfounded suspension at a job is considered a fair practice. Given Jesus's words in Luke 4:18-19 quoting Isaiah 61:1-2, 18 "*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.*" I hear a call to recognize my privileged white heritage, to work through the discomfort of confronting racism, to remove the blinders of things I do not see, and to work for justice for all.

Submitted by Susan Anderson

Helping To Build A Hunger-Free Community



AUGUST FOOD PANTRY CREW

38 Households served!!

Thank you to our August 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.



This is our 7th Annual Harvest Hoedown! Hosted at the Woodpecker Bar & Grill, this outdoor community event is family friendly and features food, live music, a bake sale, craft sale and demonstrations, games for kids, a horse drawn wagon ride to the pumpkin patch and more!

To volunteer sign up online @ www.rhinelanderaareafoodpantry.org and join the fun!
VOLUNTEERS make this event happen and we need **YOU!**

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Donate a Raffle Basket!
- Donate a craft item for the Craft Sale!
- Friday Set Up Crew: tents, pop ups, decorate, pumpkin patch, and more!
- Saturday Set-Up Crew: help with final set up before we open.
- Parking Patrol: help guests park and maintain safety.
- Basket Raffle Ticket Sales: host the raffle ticket sales table.
- Host a Kid's Game: we provide the game and prizes. Games include: Bite the Donut, Football Toss, Corn Bin, Lollipop Pumpkin and more!
- Face Painting:
- Wagon Ride Booth: sell tickets for the Wagon Ride to the pumpkin patch.
- Pumpkin Patch: host the patch.
- Pulled Pork Dinner Tent: sell and serve pulled pork dinner plates.
- Clean Up crew: help to break down and clean up at the end of the day.

If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Smith by phone at 715-369-7237 or by email at csmith@rhinelanderaareafoodpantry.org.

Thank you for your support and helping us to make this year even better than before!

Did You Know?...

Last month the Church Council approved the members of the Call Committee. They are: Chairperson – Cory Dellenbach, Kevin Kirby, Brian Willoughby, Kristine Mladucky, Kathy Maule and JoAnne Barrix. We had our first meeting after worship with the Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Jim Duehring, on August 7th. Pastor Jim pointed out our responsibilities and impressed upon us the importance of our “calling.” He likened this to other milestones in our lives such as Baptism, Confirmation, Graduation and Marriage.

As we begin meeting as a group, we first need to pray for patience and to know that calling a Pastor to our congregation is not like hiring a new CEO. In calling a Pastor we need to consider our own calling, consider God's gifts, consider the congregation and community needs, consider ministry gifts and consider new opportunities and challenges. We need to have faith that God is preparing one special person to become our Pastor.

In moving through this process, we as a committee will be starting with preparing a Ministry Site Profile. We will basically be putting together the hopes, dreams and goals that we see God putting before us. We will discern the most critical tasks in our leadership position, the most essential gifts for ministry and our expectations of a Pastor. And as you can imagine, this is not a “simple” task.

This Call Committee will need the prayers, support and input from our entire congregation. We will also need your patience. As much as we would like to have a new Pastor in our midst immediately, God is in charge and God works in God's time. While we are moving forward with the process, know that we will keep the Church Council and the congregation informed along each step.

Please do check in with any of us with your comments and questions. This is so important in the life of our community.

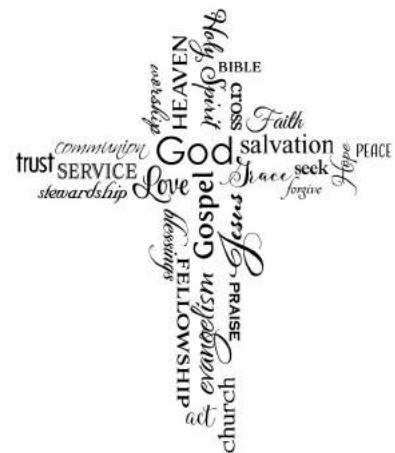
...This is Stewardship!

By JoAnne Barrix

Word of the Month “Christ—Anointed One”

Christ comes from the Greek word χριστός (chrīstós), meaning “**anointed one**”. The word is derived from the Greek verb χρίω (chrīō), meaning “to anoint.” In the Greek Septuagint, christos was used to translate the Hebrew מָשִׁיחַ (Mašiah, messiah), meaning “[one who is] anointed”. *Source Wikipedia*

Christ was not originally a name but a title derived from the Greek word christos, which translates the Hebrew term meshiah (Messiah), meaning “**the anointed one**”. This title indicates that Jesus’ followers believed him to be the anointed son of King David, whom some Jews expected to restore the fortunes of Israel. *Source Britannica*





**Do you
have a few
hours to
volunteer?**

Frederick Place is in need of
Support Staff Volunteers

Volunteers will support staff with opening doors, answering phone, clerical duties,
assisting in resident daily needs as well as other projects.

Open volunteer hours
12 PM - 4 PM Mondays - Fridays
Interested?

Contact Tammy at 715-369-9777



Thank You!



Members of Immanuel's "God Squad" were seen purchasing Summer Raffle tickets at Trig's. These volunteers are a part of a meal program at Frederick Place, as well as spending hours at the Rhinelander Food Pantry. Thank you for "Making a Difference."

From July 2022 NATH Notes

NATH WISH LIST

1. Quart and Gallon size Ziplock bags
2. Benadryl 25 mg
3. Dryer sheets
4. Bathroom cleaner
5. Laundry Detergent (HE)
6. Women's and Men's deodorant
7. 30 gallon trash bags
8. Cling wrap
9. Air Freshener
10. Bunn Coffee Filters

*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 meals and this has been working well.

We will be needing a group to provide October and November's meal. September is covered by the Prayer Chain and December by Council.

If your group hasn't signed up yet, there is a sign-up sheet by the TV in the gathering room, 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 p.m.

at First Methodist Church, Rhinelander. Northern Lakes Center located in Trinity Lutheran Church, Rhinelander. **OUR HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY 11 AM TO 3 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.



September 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 Worship Worship Leader: JoAnne Barrix	7pm AA & Alanon	OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10AM—NOON		OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON		8:45—11:30am Food Pantry
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 Worship Worship Leader: Matthew Johnson	7pm AA & Alanon	5pm Stewardship OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10AM—NOON	6pm Council <div>Newsletter Articles Due!!!</div>	OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 Worship Communion Worship Leader: Rev. Grant Van Lishout	7pm AA & Alanon	OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10AM—NOON		OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:00 Worship Worship Leader: Karen Carter	7pm AA & Alanon	OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10AM—NOON	4:30 Meal @ Frederick Place	OFFICE HOURS 9AM—NOON		

All Nursing home worship services are cancelled this month!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 2022

GENERAL FUND:

Beginning Balance	\$17,660.23
Offerings	\$11,679.34
Expenses	(\$ 6,545.92)
Ending Balance	\$22,793.65

BENEVOLENCE:

July Offering	\$ 1,147.50
2022 Pledge	\$19,000.00
YTD Remittance	\$11,714.90

BUILDING FUND:

Beginning Balance	\$37,664.89
Offerings	\$ 1,352.39
Expenses	\$ (252.35)
Ending Balance	\$38,764.93

INCOME exceeded the
EXPENSES by \$5,133.42.

July Attendance:

	In-person	Online	Total
07/03	32	64	96
07/10	44	44	88
07/17	37	72	109
07/24	35	53	88
07/31	43	50	93

Our average worship attendance for the month of July was 95.



9/1	David Dart	9/24	Linda Gary
9/6	Sheree Kral	9/24	Otto Schoeneck
9/8	John Plautz	9/24	Jessica Scholtes
9/9	Johanna Dellenbach	9/25	Roxine Zunker
9/9	Peggy Johnson	9/26	Elizabeth Eades
9/17	Alex Fortier	9/27	Darlene Machtan
9/19	Buddy Meek	9/28	Scott Scholtes
9/20	Kari Britton	9/29	Romelle Ewert
9/22	Greg Hargraves	9/30	Heather Morrison
		9/30	Mike Piasecki

9/2	Tina & Jerry Schmitz
9/8	Dianne & Michael Syms
9/11	Kari & Eric Britton
9/19	Sheree & Bryan Kral
9/22	Jean & Quentin Milz
9/19	Kristine & John Mladucky
9/28	Joseph & Stephanie Patrone

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 a.m.
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.