



THE MESSENGER

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
726 Fuller Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307
Website: www.immanuelbr.com

Facebook: @immanuelbr Instagram: ILCbigrapids
Phone 231/796-8273 Fax 231/796-9599

Sunday Morning Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Live on Facebook

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday – 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm - Closed on Friday

Office Staff: Mary Larkin, Administrative Assistant is in the office Tuesday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. Shirley Hamelund, Office Assistant is in the office Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. The Church office is closed on Friday.

Office e-mail addresses:

Church: immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com

Mary Larkin (Administrative Assistant) marylar726@gmail.com

Shirley Hamelund (Office Assistant/Receptionist) shirleyh403@gmail.com

Please call the church office (231) 796-8273 in case

of an emergency. The referral will be passed on to a leader of the church

MISSION: To inspire members to grow in loving devotion to Jesus Christ, caring concern for one another, welcoming outreach, and loving service to our neighbors.

VISION STATEMENT: Immanuel Lutheran Church will be known for welcoming hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.

November 2023

Pastoral Schedule for November 2023 (in-person) (Live stream on Facebook)



November 5, 2023	Lay Presiding Minister Lee Wolken/with video sermon
November 12, 2023	Lay Presiding Minister Gunder Myran
November 19, 2023	Rev. Robert Garrels
November 26, 2023	Pastor Dan Ward

November Readings Schedule
(Readings from New Revised Standard)

November 5th - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
- All Saints Day

9:30 am Worship - Lay Presiding Minister
Lee Wolken w/video sermon - In person wor-
ship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Revelation 7: 9-17
Psalm 34: 1-10, 22
1 John 3: 1-3
Matt 5: 1-12

**November 12th -24th Sunday after Pente-
cost**

9:30 am Worship - Lay Presiding Minister
Gunder Myran - In person worship & live
stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Amos 5: 18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18
Matt 25: 1-13

**November 19th - 25th Sunday after Pente-
cost**

9:30 am Worship - Rev. Robert Garrels -
in person worship & live stream on Face-
book.



Readings:

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18
Psalm 90: 1-8, (9-11), 12
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Matt 25: 14-30

November 26th - Christ the King
9:30 a.m. Worship - Pastor Dan Ward - In per-
son Worship & live stream on Facebook.



Readings:

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95: 1-7a
Ephesians 1: 15-23
Matt 25: 31-46



YTD thru September 2023

Ministry Fund

Giving - \$75,580
Expenses -\$69,428

Building Fund

Giving - \$57,604
Mortgage Payments- \$79,298

IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES

If you were left off this list, or if a birthday or anniversary is listed wrong, please contact the church office.



- 6 Don Nelson
- 7 Cindi Neumann
- 9 Gil Flores
Cam Meyer
- 11 Lee Wolken
Deb Flores
- 14 Cheryl Schweitzer
- 17 Betty Nelson
Andy Scott
- 20 Bruce Spengler
- 24 Ryan Metzger
- 28 Carol Wilson-Jungck
- 29 Craig Windquist



- 3 Tim & Vickie Vogel



Turn Your clocks back 1 hour on November 5, 2023.



Ongoing prayers for: Jean Swarhout and Nancy McReynolds, Diana Brondyke, (Welca), Roger O'Dell, Beth Hamelund, Cindy Carr, Mrs. Dan Ward recovering from pneumonia

Healing & Health Concerns for: Charlie Schroeder, Denny Greene, Barry Borton, Nancy Pennington, Gary Berg, Ken Root (Chad's father),

Altarcare Nursing Facility: Elaine White
Evergreen Terrace: Dorothy Burch
The Fields Assisted Living - Marcy Nelson
Homebound: Mary Sutherland, Leroy Larson

Comfort for:
Fred Zimmerman family
Lucia Hanson

World Concerns Prayers:
Our President and Leaders of the Nation
Racism
Prayer of guidance for our neighborhood churches
People hurting, suffering, homeless abusive
People in poverty (hunger, homeless)
Military troops in the U.S. and abroad
Victims of Human Trafficking
Victims of natural disasters here & abroad
Victims of shootings, bombs, terrorist groups
Victims of hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, volcanoes, hate crimes, racial justice
North Korea, Iran, Syria, Puerto Rico, Islamic community in New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Kurdish people
Families of the mass shootings in US
Shootings & Suicides in returning veterans in Military & their families (general PTSD) (22 suicides every day)
Wounded Warriors



PARISH NURSE NOVEMBER

We should always be thankful for being blessed by God, but this month we are reminded of Thanksgiving and again to be thankful for everything. Have a great heart ❤️ of Gratitude!!

Our Health News for November:

1. November is Diabetes Eye Disease Awareness Month. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in working age Americans. It is caused by changes in blood vessels in the retina; in some cases blood vessels were swollen and in other cases new blood vessels grew on the surface of the retina. Take medications as ordered and consume a healthy diet, get plenty of exercise, and keep scheduled appointments with your physician.
2. November is National Osteoporosis Awareness Month. This month is to bring attention to the importance of building strong bones. Osteoporosis occurs as a person ages. Other risk factors include family history, inadequate intake of calcium and vitamin D, and an inactive lifestyle. Osteoporosis is a silent disease—to check how your bones are doing, ask your doctor to order a bone density test for you.
3. November is Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. This disease accounts for 60-70% of dementia cases; it is a chronic neurodegenerative disease that starts slowly and then gets progressively worse. The most common symptom is memory loss which includes being disoriented and confused, problems managing finances, getting lost, difficulty with household chores and personal care (bathing), changes in sleep patterns, being withdrawn, forgetful of personal and family history, and forgetful of address and phone number.
www.alz.org
4. November is Epilepsy Awareness Month. Epilepsy is a brain condition which causes seizures. A seizure is a disruption of the electrical communication between neurons in the brain. A diagnosis is confirmed by an electroencephalogram and echoencephalogram. Worldwide 65 million have some type of epilepsy, 3 million in the United States. When a person has a seizure; stay with the person

until the seizure is over, stay calm and get a sense of how long the seizure lasted, prevent any harm, keep the person comfortable, don't hold the person down or put anything in his/her mouth, check his/her breathing and call 911 if the breathing is affected.

Blood Pressure Checks will be given when needed.

Remember Thanksgiving.

"Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way." . . . Native American Saying

"Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name." . . . I Chronicles 29:13

Love In Christ

Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse

Meetings in person this month

W/ELCA Board meeting **Sat. Nov. 4 at 10:30 am**

Congregational Conversation Sun. Nov. 5 following worship

Tubabach Concert **Sun. Nov. 5 at 4:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 7 at 10:30 am**

Worship & Music committee **Tues. Nov. 7 at 2:00 pm**

Social Concerns meeting **Tues. Nov. 7 at 3:00 pm**

Wedding rehearsal **Fri. Nov. 10 at 4:00 pm**

Wedding (Matt Windquist/Lindsay Batozynski) **Sat. Nov. 11 at 3:30 pm**

Church Council meeting **Sun. Nov. 12 following worship**

Bible study **Mon. Nov. 13 at 1:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 14 at 10:30 am**

Vision Committee **Sun. Nov. 19 following worship**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 21 at 10:30 am**

Shepherd's Hooks & Needles **Tues. Nov. 21 at Noon**

Church office closed for Thanksgiving Day on **Nov. 23**

Staff meeting **Tues. Nov. 28 at 10:30 am**

Hymn Planning **Tues. Nov. 28 at 3:30 pm**



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Social concerns - Go and Do Likewise: We will support the Brookside grade school this year. A collection box will be in the narthex for donations from the Congregation. Such things as Kleenex, shampoo, conditioner, dental floss, toothpaste in all travel size.

St. Mary – St. Paul Christmas Bazaar will be held **December 2, 2023** (Saturday) 9 am to 3 pm. Coffee & donuts available 9-11 am, lunch served 11 am to 2 pm. Also, the bazaar will be open on Sunday **December 3, 2023** from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. It is held at St. Mary Parish Center, 919 Marion Avs. Big Rapids. It is sponsored by the Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW). The Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast is open to the public. There will be gift baskets, Fresh Greens in Wreaths, Swags & centerpieces, Grandma's Attic, Bake Sale, Jewelry/Crafts, Religious Goods and Books/Board Games/CDs. Raffle tickets 6/\$5.00. 1st prize – Nativity, 2nd prize – Sleigh Ride, 3rd prize – Quilt, 4th prize – Floral Arrangement.



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Lee Wolken & Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ulrich who were married here at Immanuel in October 2023. Upcoming wedding at Immanuel is Matthew Windquist & Lindsay Batozynski who will be married on November 11, 2023. We wish them all the best of luck in their marriage.

Social Concerns committee is undertaking a joint program with Manna Pantry beginning with the month of April. You will see that a calendar is attached showing an entire year with a different product listed for each month. The focus will last for entire month. There is a tote near the office for donation. Bonnie Clark asked that we be cautious not to donate outdated products. Let's all lend a helping hand to Manna Pantry.

Manna Pantry

January:	canned luncheon (meat or chicken)
February:	pancake mix and syrup
March:	tuna
April:	Macaroni or spaghetti & sauce
May:	canned pasta
June:	pork & beans and black beans
July:	boxed macaroni & cheese
August:	canned green beans
September:	canned corn
October:	canned carrots
November:	cranberry sauce & boxed dressing
December:	canned tomatoes

Project Starburst -

So just like there are certain items for Manna, here is a list of items for Starburst. I hope you will consider contributions for both.

July:	Juice
August:	Peas
September:	Mushroom soup
October:	Sweet Potatoes
November:	gravy
December:	Instant Mashed Potatoes





THANKS-FILLED GIVING

The virtues of gratefulness and generosity are connected. When we're truly thankful for all God provides, we want to sow generous seeds in other people's lives. What will be the harvest?

Directions: Solve the clues associated with each picture. Then write the words in the correct spaces to complete 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV.

This becomes a plant _____



Willing to give _____

The result of planting seeds _____



The act of gratitude _____

Food made from wheat _____



Now he who supplies _____ to the sower and _____ for food will also



supply and increase your store of _____ and will enlarge the _____



of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be

_____ on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result



in _____ to God. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV



Answers: seed, bread, harvest, generous, thanksgiving

2023 Council Members

Steve Neumann, President	(231) 796-0956
Tammy Lindsey, Vice Pres.	(231) 519-1212
Roger Barr, Secretary	(231) 972-8276
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Dave Scott	(231) 250-5067
Judy O'Dell	(231) 823-2845
Melanie Richardson	(231) 357-0863
Carol Wilson-Jungck	(231) 670-3220
Phyllis Cousineau	(231) 796-9574
Bonnie Biers	(231) 796-1701

Council Liaisons: Roger Barr – Property
Mel Richardson – Social Concerns
Carol Wilson–Jungck – Healing Garden
Dave Scott – Finance
Steve Neumann – Worship & Music
Tammy Lindsey – Stewardship
Bonnie Biers – Church Partnership
Phyllis Cousineau – Healing Garden

Committees and Organizations

Audit Committee

Jim Lindsey	(231) 796-6400
Tammy Lindsey	(231) 519-1212
Lee Wolken	(231) 972-7756

Celebrate Immanuel (CIF)

Christian Education

Church Life

Carol Zimmerman, Chairperson	(231) 796-2152
Kitchen Coordinator	
Irene Schuberg, Funeral lunch	(231) 796-7814

Finance

Nedra Neumann, Chairperson	(231) 796-0956
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Roger Barr – Gifts/Memorials	(231) 972-8276

Nominating Team (2023)

Property

Tim Vogel, chairperson	(231) 796-3860
Healing Garden Min.	
Carol Wilson-Jungck, co-chair	(231) 670-3220
Heritage team:	
Carol Zimmerman	(231) 796-2152

Office Staff

Mary Larkin, Administrative Asst. (Tues.-Thurs.)	
Shirley Hamelund, Office Asst. (Mon, Tues, Thurs.)	
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse (schedule varies)	

Intentional Faith Development

Social Concerns (Risk-Taking Mission and Service)

Roger Barr, Chairperson	(231)972-8276
Lee Wolken –Habitat/Humanity	(231)972-7756

Stewardship (Extravagant Generosity)

Lee Wolken, Chairperson	(231) 972-7756
David Scott	(231) 250-5067

Vision (and Ministry Leadership Network)

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
Lee Wolken	(231) 972-7756

Church Partnership Team

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
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Welcoming

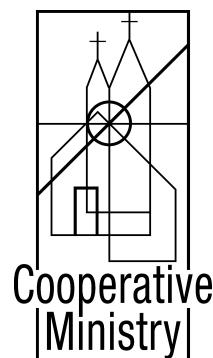
Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle	(231) 796-8385
Webmaster- Mary Larkin	(231) 796-8273
Leah Monger	(231) 287-7022

Women of the ELCA

Dee Neumann, co-chair	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund co-chair	(231) 796-7763

Worship and Music (Passionate Worship)

David Scott, A/V team	(231) 796-4618
Dee Neumann, Altar Guild	(231) 796-8385
Carol Zimmerman, Altar Guild	(231) 796-2152
Readers (Volunteer)	
Phyllis Lindsey, Worship Asst.	
and Intinction Asst.	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann, Weddings	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund, Weddings	(231) 796-7763



Immanuel 
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA

726 Fuller Ave.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Address Change Requested

2023



NOVEMBER