



## THE MESSENGER

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA  
726 Fuller Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307  
Website: [www.immanuelbr.com](http://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](mailto:immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com)

Mary Larkin (Administrative Assistant) [marylar726@gmail.com](mailto:marylar726@gmail.com)

Shirley Hamelund (Office Assistant/Receptionist) [shirleyh403@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## October 2023

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



October 1, 2023	Pastor John Brown
October 8, 2023	Lee Wolken, Video
October 15, 2023	Pastor Dan Ward
October 22, 2023	Pastor John Brown, Annual meeting
October 29, 2023	Rev. Robert Garrels

**October Readings Schedule**  
 (Readings from New Revised Standard)

**October 1st - 18th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 9:30 am Worship - Pastor John Brown - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



**Readings:**  
 Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32  
 Psalm 25: 1-9  
 Philippians 2: 1-13  
 Matt. 21: 23-32

**October 8th -19th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 9:30 am Worship - Lay Minister Lee Wolken with video - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



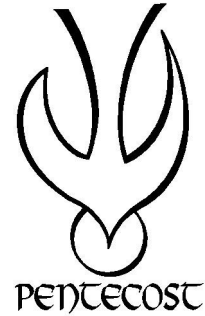
**Readings:**  
 Isaiah 5: 1-7  
 Psalm 80: 7-15  
 Philippians 3: 4b-14  
 Matt. 21: 33-46

**October 15th - 20th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 9:30 am Worship - Pastor Dan Ward - in person worship & live stream on Facebook.



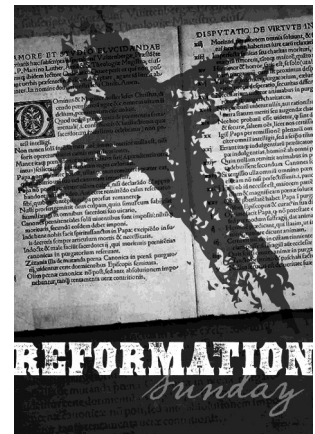
**Readings:**  
 Isaiah 25: 1-9  
 Psalm 23  
 Philippians 4: 1-9  
 Matt. 22: 1-14

**October 22nd - 21st Sunday after Pentecost**  
 9:30 a.m. Worship - Pastor John Brown, Annual meeting - In person Worship & live stream on Facebook.



**Readings:**  
 Isaiah 45: 1-7  
 Psalm 96: 1-9 (10-13)  
 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10  
 Matt. 22: 15-22

**October 29th - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost/ Reformation Sunday -**  
 9:30 am Worship - Rev. Robert Garrels - in person worship & live stream on Facebook



**Readings:**  
 Jeremiah 31: 31-34  
 Psalm 46  
 Romans 3: 19-28  
 John 8: 31-36

**YTD thru August 2023**

**Ministry Fund**

Giving - \$68,225  
 Expenses -\$64,204

**Building Fund**

Giving - \$52,820  
 Mortgage Payments- \$72376

# IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES



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

5	Dawn Aardema
11	Barb Ballard
12	Shelly Snavley
13	Gunder Myran
	Chris Weber
17	Dennis Schuberg
22	Toni Windquist
24	Jason Lindsey
25	Marcy Nelson

## OCTOBER



26 Roger & Sally Barr

### Meetings in person this month

Staff meeting **Tues. Oct. 3 at 10:30 am**  
 Worship & Music committee **Tues. Oct. 3 2:00 pm**  
 Tubabach Concert **Sat. Oct. 7 at 7:00 pm**  
 Church Council meeting **Sun. Oct. 8 following worship (Stewardship Sunday)**  
 Tubabach Concert **Sun. Oct. 8 at 4:00 pm**  
 Bible study **Mon. Oct. 9 at 1:00 pm**  
 Staff meeting **Tues. Oct. 10 at 10:30 am**  
 Tubabach Concert **Sat. Oct. 14 at 7:00 pm**  
 Church Partnership meeting following worship **Oct. 15**  
 Wedding (Lee & Yo) **Sun. Oct. 15 12:15 pm**  
 Tubabach concert **Sun. Oct. 15 at 4:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Oct. 17 at 10:30 am**  
 Shepherd's Hooks & Needles **Tues. Oct. 17 at Noon**  
 Wedding (Ulrich;s) **Sat. Oct. 21 at 2:00 pm**

Congregational annual meeting following worship **Sun. Oct. 22**  
 Staff meeting **Tues. Oct. 24 at 10:30 am**  
 Hymn Planning **Tues. Oct. 24 at 3:30 pm**

Ministry Leadership Network (MLN) **Sun. Oct. 29 (Reformation Sunday)**  
 Staff meeting **Tues. Oct. 31 at 10:30 am**



**Ongoing prayers for:** Jean Swarthout and Nancy McReynolds, Diana Brondyke, W/ELCA

### **Healing & Health Concerns for:**

Roger O'Dell, Charlie Schroeder, Beth Hamelund, Denny Greene, Fred Zimmerman, Pam Panek, Barry Borton, Jean Swarthout, Nancy McReynolds, Nancy Pennington, Cindy Carr, Gary Berg, Marcy Nelson, Beth Hamelund, Pastor Dan & Mrs. Ward recovering from covid, Phyllis Lindsey.

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

### **Comfort for:**

Len Crystal family  
 Dorothy Thomas family (Dee Neumann's sister)  
 Paul Desnoyer family

### **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 OCTOBER

Autumn is here! Remember to get your **Flu** and "**Shingles**" vaccines soon!! Check with our doctor to be certain you are a good candidate for the vaccinations.

Our Health News for October:

1. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women; one in eight will get it. Most can survive if the cancer is found early enough and treated. Spread the word about mammograms and early detection to make a difference about quality and length of life.
2. October is National Intimate Partner Violence Awareness Month. Intimate partner violence is a serious preventable public health problem that affects millions of Americans. Intimate partner violence describes physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a partner or spouse. It can occur between heterosexual or same sex couples and does not require sexual intimacy. Programs that teach young people skills for dating can prevent violence.
3. October is Respiratory Therapist Awareness Month. October is designated to praise those professionals who help patients needing care for their lungs and improving their quality of life.
4. October is Mental Health Awareness Month. Helpful hints include: 1) talk about your feelings to someone, 2) keep physically active, 3) eat well balanced foods, 4) take a break, 5) drink sensibly, 6) keep in touch with friends and family, 7) do something you are proud of, 8) accept who you are, 9) see your physician as needed and take any prescribed medications as ordered.
5. October is National Orthodontic Health Month. For children (and adults) who have braces, aligners or other appliances, the American Association of Orthodontists offers some advice, especially during Halloween's "Trick or Treat": Avoid sticky, hard crunchy or chewy candy and snacks, avoid hard treats with peanuts, taco chips, ice, and popcorn. Brushing and flossing is more important during Halloween. It is OK to eat soft chocolate and peanut-butter cups. Practice this infor-

mation in order to decrease the chance of breaking your braces. Good Luck!

Stay Healthy – Boost Your Flu IQ

- 1) Get a Flu Shot!
- 2) Do frequent hand-washing and dry them completely. Damp hands easily transmit infection.
- 3) Stop touching your face.
- 4) Stay away from sick people, if possible.

Blood Pressure Checks will be given when needed.

"That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe."

I Timothy 4:10

*Love In Christ*

*Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse*

Minutes

Church Council

September 10, 2023

**Present:** Steve Neumann, Phyllis Cousineau, Tammy Lindsey, Mel Richardson, Dave Scott, Bonnie Biers and Roger Barr

**Absent:** Judy O'Dell, Carol Wilson -Jungck

**Guest:** Phyllis Lindsey, Nedra Neumann

The Meeting was called to order at 11:01 AM by President Steve Neumann. The minutes from the August 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Mel Richardson moved approval motion carried.

**Phyllis Lindsey:** Read from her monthly report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nedra Neumann Reviewed the financial report. She commented on how we go about using memorial funds. Roger explained the system. Roger will try to simplify the process. Bonnie suggested we ask the families (via the thank you card) if they wanted the donation specified for a special project. Roger will resolve this.

**Property Committee:** Moving the sound equipment down to the main floor was discussed. We have the funds to do this. Dave Scott will get more information.

**Old Business:** The use of the \$959.00 was discussed. Using it for banner update and renewal was suggested. Carol Zimmerman will be consulted. This has not been resolved. We discussed the advantages of installing this

for safety. Dave moved that we do this. Motion carried.

New Business: The annual fee of \$1200.00 charged to Tuba Bach was discussed. We are due for a new contract with Tuba Bach. We discussed October to October as the coverage period. We also need a violation penalty stated in the contract. Dave will coordinate this. We as a congregation will vote on whether or not to leave the walls up through October.

Next Meeting is: October 8, 2023

Respectfully submitted,  
Roger Barr, Secretary

**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.

**Stewardship Appeal** – The theme for this fall’s stewardship appeal is from 2 Corinthians 9:7  
*“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (NIV)*

Our attitude when we give is more important to God than the amount we give. God is concerned about how we give from the resources he has given us.

On October 15 we invite you to bring the Estimate of Giving document with you to worship and join us in offering them to God as our expression of thanksgiving and joy for God’s generosity to us.



October

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.

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.

October           Sweet Potatoes  
November       gravy  
December       Instant Mashed Potatoes

September 28, 2023

### **NOTES FROM THE VISION COMMITTEE AND THE MINISTRY LEADERSHIP NETWORK**

In September, the Vision Committee and the MLN have discussed the following topics:

- Immanuel’s long-term financial horizon.
- Critical 2023 decisions as we envision our best future.
- Continued development of each of Immanuel’s five alternative futures, including possible partnerships with United Church and St. Paul’s in Reed City.
- Fall ministry events and programs.
- Preparation for two anniversaries:
  - 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Lutheran church in the Big Rapids area (2024).
  - 80th anniversary of Immanuel Lutheran Church (2025).
- Ideas for an October or November congregational conversation.
- Partnership with Tuba Bach—how strengthen as a part of Immanuel’s community-based ministry and the development of Immanuel as a community cultural and educational resource.



## Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

*Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.*

- |                   |   |           |
|-------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. HEAV           | → | 6. OGETHE |
| 2. ABLE           | ← | 7. ES     |
| 3. AY OF PENTECOS | ← | 8. ONGUE  |
| 4. ONGUE          | ← | 9. A      |
| 5. PIRI           | ← | 10. IND   |



“When the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> came, they were all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> came from \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> what seemed to be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> of fire that separated and came to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> and began to speak in other \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> as the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> them.”

**ACTS 2:1-4, NIV**

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind

## **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**

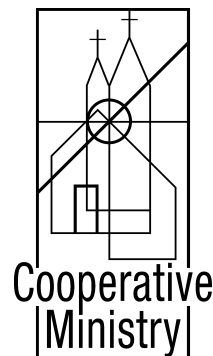
Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle	(231) 796-8385
Webmaster- Mary Larkin	(231) 796-8273
Leah Monger	(231) 287-7022

### **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**  
**OCTOBER**

