



The Image

January 2023



Immanuel Lutheran Church

3214 Golf Road

Eau Claire WI 54701

immanuelec.org

office@immanuelec.org

715-832-7832

Like us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/immanuelec

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!

Youtube.com/c/immanuelchurcheauclaire

New Year Blessings!

It's that time of year once again. The start of a new calendar year. A time to look back and reflect on the blessings of the past year and look forward to the future. Sometimes during this time of year we get bombarded with messages of self-improvement. We may see these headlines: try a cleanse, start a meditation practice, declutter your house, join a gym, or have you heard of dry January? Now I enjoy self-improvement as much as the next neighbor, but sometimes it gets to be a bit much. Sometimes I have to turn off the pop culture news and come back to the promises of God in our Christian faith.

This January we will celebrate The Baptism of our Lord Sunday where we hear the story of John baptizing Jesus in the Jordan River. In this momentous event, the heavens are opened and the Spirit of God in the form of a dove alights on Jesus. Then a voice from heaven said, *"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."* All of this before Jesus has even begun his ministry!

So to you beloved of God, even before you have done anything, hear the Holy Spirit say:
You are my child, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased!

Before any self-help work at all! You are already enough in God's eyes. Even if your house is a disaster and you swear you have tried to minimize it, tidy it, and definitely only keep what brings you joy, like, 20 times! (Just saying....)

Your worth is not tied to production, how much you earn, or how hard you have worked. It's certainly not tied to your outward appearance, a number on a scale, or the chicness of your home. Your worth is already assured in God. You are God's new creation, made new through the saving work of Jesus Christ. Rest in that promise this January!

Pastor Jamie





Youth and Family Ministry

Alyssa Engedal

familyministry@immanuelec.org

Christmas is passed, the presents are opened, and the cookies are eaten. Now – what to do with that bare tree? Again this year, on Sunday, January 8, our 2023 Summer Trip Team will be offering Christmas tree pick up. Please sign up via Sign up Genius or contact the church office to add your name to our pick up schedule.

All donations are appreciated.
Tell your friends and neighbors, too!
Click [HERE](#) for the Sign Up.



Attention families of 2nd graders! On Sunday, January 29, we will celebrate your child with a Milestone Blessing and gifting of their first “big kid” bible in worship. We hope you can join us for this special occasion.

Thanks for supporting our summer trip team! Despite it being on a very snowy day, we had a great turnout at Panda Express and received over \$140. We have another opportunity on Thursday, January 26, for you to take the night off of cooking and support our team in the process! This event will be at Panera Bread from 4 - 8 PM. We are so excited about this trip and appreciate the support of the congregation!

WOW!



Thank you, from the bottom of my heart! The outpouring of love and appreciation in honor of my 10th anniversary at Immanuel is greatly appreciated. I was shocked and overwhelmed by the kind words and generous gift from so many of the families I work with and have worked with over the past 10 years. Immanuel is a great place to worship, work, and be a part of an awesome faith community and you all reminded me of why I love it so much! ~Alyssa



Synod Minister's Update:

December 31 is Erin Nelson's last day on staff as our Director for Evangelical Mission. (You can read her farewell letter [HERE](#)). We will miss her so much but wish her well in her new endeavor as owner of The Purple Tree, an eco justice entrepreneurial ministry in Hudson - a Faithful Innovation experiment for sure! While we are sad to see Erin go, we are also delighted to announce our new DEM: Pastor Diane House (pictured) has accepted the call to serve as our Director of Evangelical Mission and will begin her new responsibilities on January 9, 2023! Please join me in praying for and welcoming Pastor Diane in her new role as synod minister.



Christmas Story

This special group of "animals" and cast did a great job sharing the Christmas Story and birth of baby Jesus!

Great work to all who participated, and a big "thank you" goes out to all who helped make it great.



Ten Year Anniversary!

Immanuel blessed Alyssa Engedal on Sunday, Dec. 20! The congregation recognized her 10 years of service as Faith Formation Minister and Director of Camp Create! Thank you for all you do for our children, youth, and families at Immanuel!



The **Annual Meeting** of the congregation will be held on **Sunday, February 12, at 10:00 AM** following worship. The 2023 Budget will be presented and a new church council nominee will be approved. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. A link to join the meeting virtually will be sent out at a later date.



*Annual Meeting of
the Congregation*



Church Council Seeking Nominations

Are you being called to help Immanuel fulfill its mission, vision and values?

One way to do that is to serve on the Church Council! The Council meets the third Tuesday of each month, and terms are for three years. Nominations for

Council members are presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested in serving in this way, please notify the church office no later than February 1.



Are you a Thrivent Member?

We have used Action Team dollars for food for fundraisers, to buy t-shirts for the Youth team, to purchase flowers for our beautification project, and to buy products for the blessing box. Contact

your agent to see if you qualify for Action Team dollars and help us to do more for our church! Let Alyssa or Grace know if you

Immanuel Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry is seeking individuals to greet and assist folks who are experiencing food insecurities. It might be a family, a single person or even a senior citizen. We serve people who come on a regular basis, who are homeless, who might be living in a motel or someone might be passing through town. No one is turned away, we do not require ID's or paper-work. We are open Monday evenings from 4 - 5:30-pm. Sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer!



If you are unable to volunteer but still want to help, please consider a donation of canned goods, cereal or personal hygiene products.

It's a New Year!

Are you looking for ways to serve at Immanuel in 2023?

Below are several ways to offer your time and talents at church. For more details or to sign up, click the link or contact the church office. Thank you!



- [Read lessons](#) at Sunday Worship
 - [Assisting Minister](#) at Sunday Worship
 - Provide special music for Sunday Worship
 - [Usher/Greeter](#) at an upcoming Sunday Worship
- Serve at Community Table 4th Wednesday of the Month
- Prepare food for [Beacon House](#) Jan. 3 - 7
 - Join Choir or Bell Choir
 - Pick up [Weekend Kids Meals](#) for Meadowview Elementary Thursday mornings from Feed My People

Happy Birthday!

01 LaVerne Parenteau
02 Mercedez Isham
04 Deanna Larson
05 Bob Lodahl
06 Tom Buchholz
08 Todd Pickett
10 Ray Felling
10 Ada Reck
10 Sheldon Satter
11 Kim Bowman
11 Marianna Gilbertson
11 Scott Calkins
12 Brenda Johnson
14 Weston Neidermire
14 Doly Rakotomahenina
16 Al Ludwig
18 Hazel Bell
18 Makenna Coyle
20 Isaiah Sorvaag
22 Ruth Halverson
23 Lincoln Prissel
23 Fern Satter
24 Kallen Engedal
25 Larry Blanshan
26 Andy Benware
26 Janet Forster
27 Rylin Rassbach
27 Seth Redetzke
29 Neil Hanson
31 Marcia Bowman
31 Avery Wilson

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts to the LSS foster families. This could not have been accomplished without your generosity! On December 14 during WoW, gifts were blessed and sent off. Cards were made for home-bound and grieving members of our congregation. You were the hands and feet of Christ this Christmas!



Happy Anniversary!

16 Lang & Holli Jacobson
20 Larry and Diane Blanshan
25 Robert & Deanna Larson

Inclusive Ministry Church

It will soon be our turn to host IM church. On February 19 from 3-5pm, we will need 8 volunteers to help Pr. Jamie with this inclusive ministry service at Lake Street Methodist Church. No experience necessary!! Individuals will show you what to do.

IM church is an ecumenical inclusive ministry that offers church services to those with intellectual or other disabilities. It offers individuals a place to be themselves and to share in worship in any way they choose. At IM Church everyone is important!

Sign up [HERE](#) and let your hearts be moved
by the joy you witness!



Eucharistic Ministry

Are you, or someone you know, unable to get to church services? Would you like someone to visit and share a message of God's love and communion? If so, please contact Deb Kavanagh through the church office at 715-832-7832.



January 2023

If you shop on Amazon, log into Amazon Smile. We receive \$ from your purchases.

For volunteer opportunities at Immanuel, please visit:
<https://www.immanuelec.org/community/volunteer/>

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0990139>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Christmas 1 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship NO JOF	2 1:00-3:00 PM Knit Together 4:00 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open	3 Immanuel serves At Beacon House	4 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM WoW Resumes 6:30 PM Learning 7:00 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Mentor Mtg Immanuel serves At Beacon House	5 12 - 4 PM Noon-Material Witness Quilting Immanuel serves At Beacon House	6  Immanuel serves At Beacon House	7 Immanuel serves At Beacon House
8 Baptism of Our Lord 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship & Learning Xmas Tree Pickup	9 1:00-3:00 PM Knit Together 4:00 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3	10 9:30 AM - H3	11 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM WoW 6:30 PM Learning 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	12 12 - 4 PM Noon-Material Witness Quilting	13	14
15 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship & Learning	16 1:00-3:00 PM Knit Together Martin Luther King Jr. Day 4:00 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open	17 9:30 AM - H3 7 PM - Council Meeting	18 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM WoW 6:30 PM Learning 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	19 12 - 4 PM Noon-Material Witness Quilting	20	21
22 9 AM Worship 10 AM Fellowship & Learning	23 1:00-3:00 PM Knit Together 4:00 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3	24 9:30 AM - H3	25 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM WoW 6:30 PM Learning 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Immanuel serves at Community Table	26 12 - 4 PM Noon-Material Witness Quilting Youth Trip Fundraiser at Panera 4-8 PM	27	28
29 9 AM Worship & 2nd Grade Mile- stone Blessing 10 AM Fellowship & Learning Eucharistic Mtg	30 1:00-3:00 PM Knit Together 4:00 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM - H3	31 9:30 AM - H3				

Epiphany of Our Lord, January 6

The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people.

Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.



Pastor Jamie Brieske

jamie.brieske4hope@gmail.com

Alyssa Engedal

Family Ministry/Camp Create
familyministry@immanuelec.org

Grace Olson

Ministry Coordinator
office@immanuelec.org

Katy LoRusso

Create-A-World Preschool Director
createaworldpreschool@gmail.com

Deb Kavanagh

Caring Ministry Coordinator
office@immanuelec.org

Sandy LaValley

Communications Administrator
Food Pantry Ministry Coordinator
immanuellutheranec@gmail.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church
3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
Address service required

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Dated Material—useless if delayed



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the
Northwest Synod of the ELCA of Wisconsin*