



The Image

September 2022



A Church Without Walls

Immanuel Lutheran Church
3214 Golf Road
Eau Claire, WI 54701
immanuelec.org
715-832-7832

"Let this be
The September
You always remember,
The September
You chose to accept:
The best thing you could do
Was to let August fall behind you,
And with an open heart
Embrace
This new day
That lies before you."
-Morgan Harper Nichols



to summer...

Dear Friends in Christ,

As August comes to a close and summer comes to a screeching halt with the returning of September, we find ourselves with mixed emotions. We start to notice the sun setting in the west much earlier than a month ago. We realize the warm summer days will soon be behind us when the fall breeze starts to blow through the trees. As kiddos head back for a new school year, there are nerves as they begin a new grade with a new teacher and new peers. Some who are entering the "newness" of high school and college with different routines and expectations.

A season of "in betweens" certainly as we get used to the changes it brings. We reflect on the events of the summer in the Immanuel community - vibrant youth programming including Vacation Bible School, high school youth trip and Summer Stretch, a successful (though wet) Daylily Dig, amazing outdoor worship at Praise in the Park and the delight of worshipping with different leaders while Pastor Jamie was on Sabbatical.

Though September means the end of summer, September is also a beginning. The bright summer flowers start to dwindle on people's porches and doorsteps-soon to be replaced with orange pumpkins and burgundy mums. The sun starts to set earlier, but we get to breathe in the fresh, crisp air that fall brings. Here at church, we can look forward to the things that end in the spring and begin again in the fall: music shared by our choir, learning happening at preschool, Journey of Faith, and confirmation, many opportunities for fellowship & caring conversations, and sharing meals together, just to name a few!

As we start to feel the weight of the last two years start to lift from our shoulders we are invited to enter into a season to find freedom and peace. There is grace to fall in love with September even in the "in betweens" we forge ahead as a community of faith. How wonderfully we have grown since September of last year.

Let September be September.

BY
faith

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 9 AM; Wednesday 6 PM

September 4: Welcome Back Pastor Jamie!

September 11: Rally Sunday - Backpack Blessing

September 18: God's Work, Our Hands

September 21: Worship on Wednesday (WoW)

September 25: ABC Milestone

September 28: WoW

We look forward to seeing you!



Rally Sunday

Join us on **September 11** for our annual kickoff to the learning year! During worship, we will have a Blessing of the Backpacks for all teachers & learners who are headed back to school, so bring your backpack along. Following worship there will be a lot to do - have a snack, check out the classrooms, register for classes, sign up to get involved with various Immanuel ministries, and join in some Cross+Generational conversation. Throughout this year, much of our Journey of Faith (JoF) learning will focus on God's awesome creation and how we take care of it. I am excited to be partnering with the newly formed Immanuel Green Team to kick off our learning year by sharing some practical ways to care for the earth!



God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. We do acts of service to deepen our experience with our community and to play a critical part in addressing community needs. Join us on **September 18** for ways to serve our church and community:

- Pack blessing bags at church after worship (info below).
- Provide meals for Beacon House, September 25—October 1.
- Support the Lutheran Cemetery on Omaha Street by helping to clean up the property (more info below).
- Serve at Community Table the 4th Wednesday of the month.

One of our GWOH projects will be packing blessing bags, which will be small bags you will keep in your car to hand out to those in need. You may drop off any of these items in the Narthex beginning **Sept. 4**: hats, gloves, socks, hand warmers, travel-size toiletries (dry shampoo, toothbrush), body wipes, Kwik Trip fuel only cards \$5 or \$10.



Join us for
"God's work. Our hands."

A dedicated day of
service in our community.



Immanuel is one of three ELCA churches that maintain the Lutheran Cemetery on Omaha Street. On **Sept. 18** we will clean some of the headstones that may be covered by dirt and grass, starting with the military. If you have a shovel and/or spade, please bring with you as well as a rake.

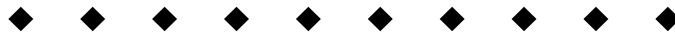
Youth and Family Ministry News

Alyssa Engedal—familyministry@immanuel.org



Camp Create is excited to begin our seventh year!

This day camp ministry for two-year-olds will begin after Labor Day, and will have classes Monday through Thursday mornings. Our classes are nearly full – we do have limited spaces still available in the Tuesday/Thursday class. If you know of someone who may be interested, please spread the word! Camp Create is a great way for two year olds to begin a school-like setting, in a warm, engaging, Christian atmosphere. Our motto is “Play, Learn & Grow in God’s Love,” and we spend each day doing just that! Talk to Alyssa if you have questions or would like to learn more.



Attention 6th – 8th graders!

Confirmation is starting! Our first night together will be September 14, which will be a sign-up & orientation night. **Please make sure to bring your confirmation student(s), your family calendar, and at least 1 parent or caring adult!**



Our regular WoW schedule will begin the week of September 21:

5:15 PM Meal

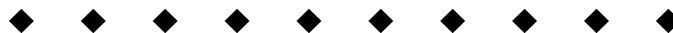
6 PM Worship

6:30 PM Learning (Ages 3 - grade 8)

7:00 PM SHYN & Choir Rehearsal



SHYN (Senior High Youth Night) will begin for the year on Wednesday, September 21. All youth in grades 9-12 are welcome to attend. SHYN meets following WoW worship throughout the school year, from about 7-8 PM, in the Youth Room. We will spend this time together sharing highs & lows, enjoying fellowship together, planning events/retreats, and having Bible study. We are hoping to add some off-site activities this year, too!



WoW Meals Are Back!

We are so excited to bring back our Wednesday night meal option, after not being able to gather in this way for the last few years due to COVID. This is a great time to share in fellowship with one another, and fill our bellies before worship and learning. All are welcome to join in this meal starting September 21st at 5:15 PM. Donations of money, time and/or food are appreciated. Talk to Alyssa, Melissa Tarpenning or call the church office to find out more!



IMMANUEL TO HOST 9TH ANNUAL MEXICAN CONSULATE VISIT



Immanuel, in collaboration with Immanuel's AMMPARO ministry and JONAH Immigration Task Force, will be hosting the Mexican Consulate Mobile Visit for the 9th time on Saturday, **September 17 from 9 AM -3:00 PM**. This annual visit by the Mexican Consulate from St. Paul, Minnesota is an opportunity for our Hispanic neighbors to receive the services and support of the Consulate. The Consulate is the only source for such crucial documents such as consular identification cards, passports, and visas. Other services on hand will supply information on topics such as workplace safety, health care, immigration, and local services. Due to the pandemic, no services were provided in 2020 and was scaled back in 2021.

If you would be available to help on September 17 in some capacity or would like more information, please contact Ray Koch at rk9561@charter.net or call/text 715-225-5907.



Immanuel and Unitarian Universalist Churches Serve At Beacon House

Sunday, September 25 thru Saturday, October 2

There is something about the fall that makes you want to cook and bake...take joy in the aroma in the kitchen. If this is you, the Beacon House would love your help in preparing main and side dishes for those families and children that are without a home, and waiting to find permanent housing. The two churches will serve meals consisting of a main dish and side dish with dessert welcomed! Learn more and sign up [here](#) if you would like to volunteer your time and cuisine talents! Thank you!



Immanuel Lutheran Adult Senior Church Choir

Wednesday Rehearsals 7 PM

Sunday Worship - Warmup 8:30 AM/Service 9 AM

Director: Tammie Delveaux Rubenzer

tammiedelveaux@gmail.com

Phone: 262-388-3209

Our first rehearsal is on **September 7th at 7:00pm** to prepare for Rally Sunday on September 11th which will be our first anthem of the season! Pass the word along!

Sing out with a joyful noise!!!

For planning purposes, please let Tammie know if you will be joining the choir this fall. Thank you!

You're invited to...

JONAH'S 15TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION: *MAKING IT HAPPEN*

Sunday, October 16, 6-8pm
The Brewing Project

Tickets: \$35 <https://bit.ly/3PtRKVT>



The Brewing Project will host this event on Sunday, October 16 from 6 - 8 PM. Contact Sue Waits or Ray Koch for more information or to purchase tickets. (Call/text 715-225-5907)

Handbells!

Handbell choir starts fall rehearsals Saturday, **October 1, 10 AM to 12 PM**. We plan to play in church the first Sunday of each month (except January) and rehearse once or twice per month. New and returning players are welcome. If you're new to our group, call or text me so we know you're coming!

Peggy Blumenberg, Organizer

pbe33@yahoo.com Ph. 715-456-3350



**New members
welcome!**

**Check
It Out!**

LAY SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

The Lay School of Ministry (LSM) is an educational ministry of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin (ELCA), which assists lay people to a deeper Christian identity and participation in the mission of the whole church. The curriculum and educational objectives of the Lay School of Ministry emphasize the baptismal vocation of all Christians. Courses are designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the Bible, Worship, Spirituality, Christian History and Lutheran Theology.

NOTE: Stipends from the Trust Fund are available to members attending the Lay School of Ministry.

[Lay School of Ministry Website](#)

[Registration Form 2022-23](#)



NEW LOCATION AND HOURS FOR FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry has been moved from the kitchen area to the large closet across from the preschool room. Hours starting after Labor Day will be Mondays from 4 - 5:30 PM. The Food Pantry served many families over the summer months. In August, 260 pounds of food was donated to those in need. Please consider volunteering as a Greeter on Mondays. Sign up [here](#). Thank you!

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers that worked on the church grounds over the summer! Your

time and care of cutting the grass, removal of weeds, trimming bushes and caring for the many plants and flowers is so very appreciated!



Dr James Boulter of UWEC will present a series of environmental talks at St John Lutheran starting September 11. It discusses the caring for creation ELCA statement and several other interesting topics:



Whole Sustainability – Living a Whole, Faithful, Sustainable Life for All

Although climate change is an existential crisis, it is merely one facet of the coupled threats that face humanity and the natural world. A more inclusive approach to these challenges lies in the field of sustainability studies. Rather than focusing exclusively on challenges, I would like to emphasize how the world might be different if we could tackle them together; and one exemplary framework for this is the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs. In general, I find that most Americans are not even aware of these, although people in the developing world may be more so. However, they are meaningful to all societies regardless of development status. In terms of relationship to faith, Pope Francis' remarkable text, *Laudato Si'*, speaks in a compelling manner to the problems in our society that have led to these challenges as well as the solutions that are available by approaching them from a standpoint of sustainable development. Additionally, three of the ELCA social statements address themes consistent with sustainable development, plus the upcoming social statement on climate change. With these as context, we will examine the current state of the world, some solutions to the conjoined crises that face us, and a vision for restored health and relationships.

Sessions:

1: September 11th, 10:15AM at the St. John's Sanctuary - Sustainability and Sustainable Development

Looking at the overarching themes of the four sessions, we'll discuss definitions of weak vs. strong sustainability and the basis of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and then focus on a vision of how some of the proposed solutions in the SDGs might be consistent with values inspired by our faith traditions.

2: September 18th, 10:15AM at the St. John's Sanctuary - Planet (SDGs 6, 13-15; Caring for Creation ELCA Social Statement)

We'll look at the coupled crises represented by climate, air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, and their importance to humanity. Just these challenges appear overwhelming – is there a way that we can find hope through them all? And how is our response informed by our faith?

3: September 25th, 10:15AM at the St. John's Sanctuary - Society (SDGs 1-5, 7, 11, 16; Church in Society ELCA Social Statement)

We'll start by examining some of the progress that has been made in the current millennium, and reasons for hope for more. We'll also look at the US compared to other nations, and then discuss some of the challenges that remain at home and abroad. How do we view our successes (and failures) as Christians?

4: October 2nd, 10:15AM at the St. John's Sanctuary - Economy (SDGs 8-10, 12; Economic Life ELCA Social Statement)

Again, we'll briefly touch on some of the progress that has been made and we'll cover some of the challenges that face us. Is there a vision for how some of the proposed solutions in the SDGs may be consistent with values inspired by our faith traditions? We'll conclude with how these 16 goals are integrated and the global effort to achieve them – goal 17.

"Vocation is where our deep gladness meets the world's deep need." - Frederick Buechner

Summer Youth Trip 2022

On behalf of our entire trip team, thank you for your support of our 2022 Summer Trip! Despite the trip not being what we were originally planning for, due to the cancellation of the ELCA National Youth Gathering, we had an incredible experience. We began our trip at

Rebound, the first ever Tri-Synod Youth Gathering. This event was planned by leaders of the Northwest, LaCrosse Area, and Upper Great Lakes Area Synods of WI. It was amazing! They found leaders to inspire us through word and music, as well as awesome workshop and service options to help us live out our faith in our daily lives. Following Rebound, our Immanuel team headed to Custer, SD and spent a few days camping, relaxing, and enjoying God's amazing creation and unplugged time together! We spent a day each exploring Sylvan Lake and Legion Lake, both of which were beautiful. We drove the Wildlife Loop where we saw one bison, some prairie dogs, and a lot of grass. We also visited Mt. Rushmore which the kids agreed looked "just like the pictures." In between, we had some unexpected events and lots of laughs. Through it all, the kids were amazing! They worked together, they formed new relationships, and maintained positive attitudes even when things didn't go as planned. All in all, it was a fantastic trip and we couldn't do it without the support of our Immanuel family - so...THANK YOU!

The youth shared their experiences:

Teckla Wahlstrand:

This 2022 summer church trip was so much fun. I really enjoyed the planned...and unplanned experiences we had. It kept it interesting ;) Rebound at River Falls had a great energy to it and I loved all the different artists that came and played. Our long van rides to South Dakota offered great naps too. South Dakota was beautiful. Our campground had a great view of mountains and the sunsets were always pretty. No matter where we drove in SD there was always something to admire about the scenery. This trip also gave me the opportunity to learn more about all the great people who were along on the trip. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people. It was a great experience and trip with many memories that came of it.



Kaelyn Hansen:

This was my second trip with the youth group! It was so much fun to be able to experience Rebound at a smaller place but still with many people. I enjoyed this year's trip so much, the nature, views of the rocks and hills in South Dakota were amazing!

Rylie Hansen:

This was my first youth trip! I enjoyed going camping in Custer, South Dakota because the views were amazing. Overall it was a very fun trip and I am excited to go on another trip next summer.

Carter Chapman:

This trip was meaningful to me because it felt like I got closer to God. I am glad I went, because I met new people and got closer with my friends. On this trip I also got a better direction of where I want to go to college. My highlight of the trip was going to the lake and jumping off the rocks.

Grant Johnson:

On this trip to the Rebound conference and the Black Hills, I expanded my faith and had such a great time! The conference in River Falls taught me the importance of inclusion and respect in our faith. Then camping in the Black Hills helped deepen my relationships with our youth group greatly. I am so thankful I had the opportunity to go on this trip and I will never forget it!

Kyellie Engedal:

My favorite part of going on the trip was all of the hiking and lakes we went to go see. It's all super pretty. I made lots of new friends on the way, and learned more about helping those in the community with all the service projects we did.

Alexis Drier:

I had so much fun on our 2022 trip to South Dakota! We had so much fun swimming in beautiful lakes, visiting shops and monuments and camping at an awesome campsite! We all got closer and learned more about each other while driving for hours in our awesome van. I'm super excited for the next trip and I'm so thankful I got to go on this trip and for the congregation for making it happen!

Keiran Tarpenning:

Thank you so much for this awesome trip, there were so many things that I enjoyed, like swimming, hiking small mountains, shopping, and relaxing at our campsite, but the best part was helping out a family in need, by painting a house.

Kailey Hanson:

I would like to start off by saying thank you to the congregation for their support. Being able to take part in this trip was beyond a blessing. I really enjoyed spending time with the youth group. I had so much fun at rebound meeting new people and being in the large group singing, praising, and of course dancing. I enjoyed going camping, swimming, taking hikes, and going to the little shops downtown Custer. The week flew by so fast but all good things must come to an end. I wanted to say a huge thanks again to the congregation, I will always remember this trip, it was an amazing one!

Molly LoRusso:

The 2022 Rebound trip was especially impactful for me because I got to connect with God through people as well as nature. Coming together at River Falls strengthened my relationship with God because I got to be surrounded by kids my age that share my beliefs and values. Then, going to South Dakota strengthened my relationship with God because I got to see the incredible nature that God made.

Campbell Dean:

I had a great time at the Rebound trip connecting with God and other youth. Getting to see and meet talented Lutheran artists and singers was really cool. Also, going to South Dakota and doing adventurous things like hiking around Mount Rushmore was a great experience.

Gabe Ramlow:

My time on this youth trip was excellent! I'm very glad I went on this trip because I got to learn some super neat things about the places we went to. And to be honest, my favorite part about this trip would have to be the connection I made! I made some new friends and got to talk to some really fun people. Even though there were a few minor mishaps during the trip it was so much fun!

Karina Barquist

During Rebound and our trip to South Dakota my faith changed a lot. In the past year a lot of loss in our family has happened. After losing two very close family members, and our family dog there was a lot of grief in our environment. During that time of sadness and dealing with work and school on top of it, it really was difficult. When all of this change in my life was happening I was also helping teach Sunday school. Going to church every week ended up helping immensely. Made me feel better overall. Getting the chance to go to Rebound was very educational and entertaining. Learning new ways of praying, meditating, and opening up to others, it really enlightened opportunities to self care for yourself through your faith in god. And how to help others as well.

John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

Being able to road-trip to South Dakota was great. Even though you're cramped in a van with 14 other people, the radio station plays the same four songs in between the endless ads, it can be fun. And eventful sometimes like when the muffler is falling off the other van. It's always special looking at beautiful views through the window. Getting to experience more of our world by camping, going on hikes, swimming in beautiful lakes, and getting to see different wildlife. The overall trip just showed me that there are endless opportunities to explore and that God can always guide you on the way.

Summer Youth Trip 2022 cont.

Alizah Felling:

I had a lot of fun on the summer youth trip. It was my first time on a church youth trip and I was really excited to go to the National Youth Gathering. Due to covid our first plan had to be canceled. I was disappointed by this turn of events at first, but I truly enjoyed the time we spent with each other and in God's creation in South Dakota and at the Rebound event in River Falls.

Kaatya Modl:

This was my first trip with this youth group! Overall it was a very fun experience and I am really glad I got to meet a lot of new people and make new friends. The views on this trip and all the nature of South Dakota was really beautiful!

Returning in September: Holy, Healthy and Happy (HHH or H3)

The group is looking forward to continuing on a spiritual journey led by Alison Martin. We will discuss Nate Asseng's book, I Wonder: Mind-Freeing Encounters with God, and study the book of Acts.

Starting September 12 and 13, one HHH group meets Monday evenings, 6:30 - 8 PM. Another one meets Tuesday mornings, 9:30 - 11 AM. We will try to meet at Church in the community room...left as you go in the front door. We will also have a Zoom link for those who would like to join us virtually, either for risks reasons or because of distance. We will always be an inclusive group.

We hope that more people will join us, both returning and new! This is a welcome thing in learning and growing. If you need a ride, one of us would be more than happy to pick you up!



01 Melody Dragseth
02 Lois Helland
02 Bill Schwengel
03 Thomas Fey
04 Steve Johnson
04 Jodi Buchholz
04 Madeline LoRusso
05 Sue Waits
05 Deb Balts
06 Sue Luthy
07 Robin Gullicksrud
08 Kaleb Engedal
10 Grant Benware
11 Ed August
11 Scott Magnuson

11 Linda LaFave
11 Heather Hedges
12 Barb Lundeen
16 Casper Haas
18 Hattie Hungerholt
19 Levi Felling
20 Gary Hedding
21 Amy Schlieve
21 Griffin Fey
22 Betty Gertner
28 Brian Bischel
29 Marilyn Pospishil
30 Trapper Carlson



03 Darrell & Joy Becker
04 Levi Felling & Sarah Aiken-Felling
08 Keith & Alison Martin
15 Erv & Linda LaFave
16 Ray & Sue Koch
17 Andy & Alyssa Engedal
18 Scott & Gwen Magnuson
19 Gary & Joan Pospishil
21 Brent & Carol Sue Carlson
23 Matt & Kelsey Coyle
26 Faly & Lalao Rakotomahenina

September 2022

If you shop on Amazon, log into Amazon Smile. We receive \$ from your purchases. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0990139>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Noon - 4 PM Material Witness Quilting Preschool Orientation Night	2	3
4 9 AM Worship Welcome Back Pastor Jamie!	5 Labor Day Food Pantry Closed	6 Preschool classes begin this week!	7 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	8 Noon - 4 PM Material Witness Quilting	9	10
11 RALLY SUNDAY! 9 AM Worship Backpack Blessing 10 AM Cross+Gen Fellowship/Activities	12 4 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM H3	13 9:30 AM H3 1:30 PM AMMPARO Meets	14 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Confirmation Orientation Grades 6-8 7 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Orientation Grade 9	15 Noon - 4 PM Material Witness Quilting	16	17 9 AM - 3 PM Immanuel Hosts Mexican Consulate Visit
18 9 AM Worship 10 AM God's Work, Our Hands (GWOH) Cross+Gen Service Project	19 4 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM H3	20 9:30 AM H3	21 10 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM WoW Meal 6:00 PM Worship 6:30 PM Learning 7 PM SHYN & Choir Rehearsal	22 Noon - 4 PM Material Witness Quilting	23	24
25 9 AM Worship ABC Milestone 10 AM Fellowship & Learning	26 4 - 5:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:30 PM H3	27 9:30 AM H3	28 10 AM Bible Study 5:15 PM WoW Meal 6:00 PM Worship 6:30 PM Learning 7 PM SHYN & Choir Rehearsal	29 Noon - 4 PM Material Witness Quilting	30	

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Home of Create-A-World Preschool and Camp Create

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a congregation of all ages and backgrounds gathered to worship God, walk with one another in our faith journeys, and reach out to the community with compassion. We welcome people new to our faith community and invite them to share our ministry.

Our roots run deep in the community, yet we seek to respond to our constantly changing culture. From our worship services to our preschool, we are dedicated to spreading God's word and living lives to reflect God's love for the world.

Pastor Jamie Brieske

jamie.brieske4hope@gmail.com

Alyssa Engedal

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PLEASE
PLACE
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Dated Material—useless if delayed



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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