

Immanuel Lutheran Church

March / April 2016

OUR PURPOSE
Immanuel, God with us, renewing lives in Christ through the Holy Spirit

Guiding Principles

Prayer taps into God's renewing power

Faith is renewed through the **Word & Sacraments**

Worship that renews is done with **many voices but one heart**

Renewing mission is best supported by **leaders committed to God's vision**

Renewed lives welcome and care for one another

Renewed, we live and serve within a greater community

Renewed lives witness to others

Hope-filled Living

So what do you want in life? What have you been pursuing? A great many people would answer that question with "happiness," but I'd advise you to answer with "hope." Happiness twists with the wind, comes and goes with the tide, changes with outer circumstance. But hope – now that's something to get excited about!



Can you use some hope? Well, my friend, you're in luck, because hope is the gift that God gives you this Easter season. Peter once wrote, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." (1 Peter 1:3).

Put into modern context think of the stuff that you've been facing from day-to-day. Job problems? Relationship struggles? Uncertain future? Or maybe the future seems all too certain? Guess what...Jesus can deal with it. That's right, Jesus can deal with your situation no matter what. This one has taken on death itself, after all, and won! What are you facing? Easter declares to you that Jesus is up to the task. In him we hope, and that hope is solid, unchanging and undaunted.

support each other by nurturing one another's faith and helping each other identify their spiritual gifts and use those gifts in the congregation and in the world. When they disagree they do so in a respectful manner, ultimately strengthening the congregation. The people in these vital congregations understand God's mission goes beyond their walls. They intentionally connect with the wider Christian community and within their local context to share the good news in word and deed by striving to be God's hands in the world.



Vital congregations may be large or small. They may be growing, shrinking or holding steady. The key to their vitality is that they experience God's active presence in everyday life and live as disciples of Christ. This way of describing vitality points to the relationships between the congregation's members and God, each other, and the world. These relationships are at the heart of what it means to be church and are summed up by Jesus in scripture through the Great Commandment "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the profits." (Matthew 22:37-40) and the Great Commission when Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)



God calls all people and congregations beyond survival and into an abundant life. As Jesus said, "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

Which brings me to a wonderful blessing. I share this with you knowing that it is more than mere words. It is a prayer that God has promised to answer...for you...right now: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).

Hope, the gift of Easter. Accept no substitutes! In Christ,
Pastor Steve

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Congregational Vitality Project

A new survey resource being made available to ELCA congregations is the Congregational Vitality Project. The project website begins...

What is congregational vitality? Vital congregations exude a certain kind of vibrancy, a friendly welcoming manner, and God's presence is tangible. Those who attend regularly have a sense of purpose. They

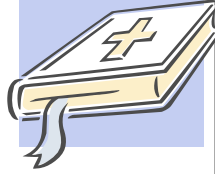
How are we doing as Immanuel? What can we invite each other to celebrate? In what do we see a need for growth? Our congregational council invites you into the conversation by completing and returning to the church office the included survey page before the month is out. You may also complete the survey online:

www.congregationalvitalitysurvey.com
 Congregational ID: 06893
 Password: 23506591
 (Follow the "Request New Survey" link)

Following the survey, stay tuned for council's invitation into consideration of survey results and next steps, seeking always to revitalize and sustain congregational mission. Together we can be about this ongoing Christ-centered congregational work.

Don't Forget:

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY



We still meet Every Wednesday Morning at 10:00 am for Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall. Come & join us. Pastor Steve or Pastor Marcia lead the Bible Study. If you would like to become better acquainted with the Bible & grow in your faith, this is a great opportunity for both! We go over the readings for the next Sunday/Monday services. Please join us- everyone is welcome. Come for Bible Study, Fellowship, and Coffee.



The Men's Monthly Breakfast Bible Study meets every Saturday during Lent at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

The dates are: Saturday, March 5,12,19,26. Come & join our group for fellowship & food. All men are welcome!!



Good Friday Service – We will gather with the ecumenical community for worship on Friday, March 25, Noon to 3:00 pm at the Eastwood Apostolic Lutheran Church in Negaunee. Everyone is welcome!



Bible Camp Style Services

...typically take place the 3rd Monday of each month, BUT March's service will land one week early on **March 14 at 6:00 pm.** **April 18** will bring things back in normal rhythm. Ellen Lindblom & Katie McEachern lead the music with their guitars. One worshipper remarked, "I was moved to worship in the singing of the Lord's Prayer. Wonderful!" Come join the worship!

NEGAUNEE HIGH SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS



NOTICE!! One or two scholarships will be available for Immanuel seniors who meet the guidelines. The applications will be available on **Wednesday, March 16, 2016** and the deadline for turning in the applications will be **Wednesday, April 6, 2016.** Please check at the High School Guidance Office if you are interested in applying for one of these scholarships. Time passes quickly, so do it now!!

Youth

Youth Trip Prayers Request

ENCOUNTER

Six youth and two adults will be attending the Youth Encounter Quake Zone in Minneapolis **March 31-April 3.** The weekend will include service, worship, learning, and fun...with the theme "Unbreakable," centering on 2 Corinthians 12:9-10: *But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*"

Thank you for making this trip possible. And thank you for holding in your prayers Sierra Hendrickson, Madison Holcomb, Katie McEachern, Grace Ulvila, Lilly Ulvila, Kiya Williams, Stacy McEachern & Sherry Ulvila...as well as all our youth & parents who stay at home.



Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Summer Registrations and Retreats



Upcoming Fortune Lake Retreats

March 7 – Senior Day. Come and join us for a day of wonderful conversation, delicious food, and great fun! Welcome snacks and lunch is provided. Please call Mary at (906)- 875-3697 to register.

April 8-10 – Adoptive Family Retreat. This retreat is open to families who have been formed through adoption, foster care, and to those who are interested in exploring adoption. There will be time for worship, Bible study, crafts, games, making new friends, and time to share and connect!

April 22-23 – Upper Elementary Retreat. Experience all that Fortune Lake has to offer through games, crafts, worship and fun activities. This a fun way to come to camp for the first time or come back to make some more memories!

More info available at www.fortunelake.org.

East Parking Lot



While the snow is still here, please be advised that parking too close to the building risks snow and ice falling upon your vehicle..... or you. Please allow room for safety. Thank you.

... AND ... Thank you all for your diligence in observing of the safety precautions that we instituted during the winter, snow season. Hopefully, we are fine again until next year. **Happy Spring, and Happy Easter !!!**





HOLY WEEK SERVICES

We hope you will gather with us.

March 20 - Palm Sunday,

8:30 & 11 am

Procession with Palms

March 24 - Maundy Thursday: 6:30 pm

Holy Communion

March 25 - Good Friday Services

12 noon - 3:00 pm

Ecumenical Services at

Eastwood Apostolic Lutheran

Church in Negaunee

March 27 - Easter Sunday

Day of Resurrection

7:00 am - Sunrise Service

Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

Holy Communion



Youth Mission Trip to Tanzania – A Life-Changing Experience!

To all who will be 16 to 24 years-of-age come **June 15 – July 2, 2017**, travel with Pastor D.J. and Amanda Rasner (of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hancock, MI) to Tanzania for ministry with our sisters and brothers in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Experience the lives of God's people in Africa. Cost: \$4,800, covering travel, lodging, meals, safari, and mission program. That may be a lot of money, but not impossible. Please talk with Pastors Steve or Marcia. Trip Contacts: Bishop Skrenes: tskrenes@nglsynod.org (906-362-5212); and Pastor D.J. Rasner: pastor@gdlch.org (906-482-2381).

FYI: Amanda Rasner grew up here at Immanuel, daughter of Dennis & Kathleen Partanen.



IS THIS ENDING SOON? BE CAREFUL IN OUR PARKING LOT. SEE NOTICE PAGE 2.

IMMANUEL NOW HAS A PAGE ON FACEBOOK! SEARCH FOR "IMMANUEL NEGAUNEE" AND "LIKE" US.



Sunday School Report for March/April Beacon

We studied Daniel and the Lions and learned that God is always with us no matter what. The king had been tricked into

putting Daniel in the lion's den as punishment for praying to God. The king's staff, who wanted to get rid of Daniel for their own gain of power, had got the king to declare a 30 day period in which no one could pray to or worship anyone but the king. They knew Daniel prayed three times per day. When Daniel was "caught" praying, the king realized his terrible mistake as he could not rescind his order. He told Daniel, "I hope whatever God you pray to will save you". Daniel did just that, and the lion's mouths remained shut. Like Daniel, we too can face our fears knowing that God is there no matter what the circumstance. As a result, the pagan king came to believe in Daniel's God!

We move to a four week session of study on Holy Communion. In this meal we experience God's saving love. In the night in which He was betrayed, Jesus gave us the gift of ultimate love and sacrifice as He prepared to go to the cross. He took on our sins and ensures our forgiveness forever! In this meal, we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation. As we eat the bread and drink the wine, which are the body and blood of Christ, we recall His faithful promise. We are forgiven for what we confess, and we know we have eternal life as promised at Baptism. At communion, we celebrate the promise given to us at our Baptism. This is a covenant that can never be broken!

At this meal, Christ is the host and gives us a taste of the great feast to come; that is the heavenly feast. We know that God is waiting to receive us and Christ makes us good enough to be presented to God on the last day.

From this meal, God sends us to minister to a world that needs us. As forgiven sinners, we are free from the weight of our sins so we can move forward and do our best work. We proclaim Christ & live in such a way that people can come to know Christ through us. Being kind, generous, & helpful is the way to show Christ to others while proclaiming His good news.

At Immanuel any baptized child may receive communion with parental consent. We encourage children of all ages to commune together with their parents to experience the body of Christ.

Yours in Christ, Gary Suardini
Sunday School Superintendent

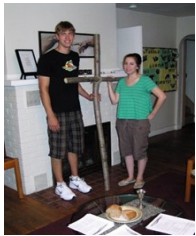
NOTICE!! IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH BEACON

ANNOUNCEMENT.....Are you looking to spend money & make an impact for Christ's missions in our community & world? Well, we have an opportunity for you! There is an opening on our Endowment Committee for someone who wants to help with the awesome responsibility of distributing 5% of our endowment funds each year. This year we have earmarked over \$15,000 to help various ministries, but we need you help. Volunteer at our office or contact the President of our committee, Dan Kill at (906) 250-9363 or dkill@nmu.edu. Thank you & God Bless!

March / April Mission Emphases

In March, our mission emphasis is our ministry through Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) at Northern Michigan University. LCM is a ministry to & with Northern students, centered around the weekly rhythm of fellowship, Bible study, & worship. LCM reminds, "We don't assume everyone thinks like us; we don't assume everyone's at the same point in their journey. We do offer opportunities to share your faith questions and your deep commitments with others, and help build a community of mutual support and of service of the healing of the world."

Lisa Johnson works part-time as LCM's campus minister and part-time as Messiah Lutheran's youth & family minister. Lisa has lots of experience in outdoor ministries and Bible camping, as well as international experience in Mexico, El Salvador, and Tanzania. Her college majors were Youth and Family Ministry and Human Services, with a minor in Religion and Philosophy. Lisa loves the outdoors -- she's certified as a High Ropes leader.



Your support makes this ministry to and with our Northern students possible. If you wish to give above-and-beyond to this mission, please use March's mission emphasis envelope from your offering envelopes box or in some other way designate your gift. Thank you for your generosity!

In April, we focus on ELCA World Hunger.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." – Matthew 25:35

Working with and through our congregations in the U.S., Lutheran churches around the world, and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

You can make a difference! If you wish to give above-and-beyond to this mission, please use April's mission emphasis envelope from your offering envelopes box or in some other way designate your gift. Thank you for your generosity!

THE ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPROACH

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, we meet basic needs and recognize the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

We start with relationships marked by conversation and listening. We believe people know their own communities best. It is our congregations and our global companion churches that first identify the local needs and related solutions to help make a difference. Then, we partner with communities to help make those solutions a reality.



Pastor John, Notes from India and Tanzania

Greetings to my sponsoring churches! My home in India is in the state of Tamil Nadu, and when I last wrote to you, the Tamil Nadu harvest festival called Pongal was just beginning. Pongal is both a festival and the name of a dish made with milk and rice that is eaten year round. The holiday Pongal is four days long. The first day is basically for getting rid of the old stuff you no longer need and burning it. Then you can clean and paint your home and even paint the horns of your oxen and buffalo. The second day is the official Pongal Day when the pongal is made. Milk is boiled until it overflows its pot and then rice is added.

Pongal can be made sweet or spicy or anything in between. This day is also when intricate rice flour drawings are made on the floors in entryways. The third day is for honoring cows who provide both milk and manure. The cows are bathed, decorated with garlands of flowers, and have their horns painted. They are fed special pongal and other treats like bananas, other fruit, and honey. The fourth and last day of Pongal is for family reunions. Landlords are to give gifts to their tenants. Villagers visit neighbors and city dwellers go to the beach or to a theme park. I enjoyed eating the pongal, but I did not decorate any cows!

You may remember my colleague, Mike, who came to Arusha, Tanzania for a whirlwind tour of the hospitals I have been working with? He came to India for the same kind of whirlwind tour of the hospitals I've been working with in India. I met him in Mumbai and we flew to Nagpur. From there, we took a two-and-a-half-hour car ride to Padhar where Mike had a good tour of the hospital and met the staff. We were there on Sunday and I was asked to preach. I told a story about a Gideon from India that gave a "down and out" man a NT. The guy was honest with him and said, "I really want to use the pages to roll my cigarettes." The Gideon was a little taken aback - but grace filled his mouth and he said, "That's OK, if you'll promise me that you'll read the page, front and back, before smoking it." The guy agreed and after having smoked his way into the Gospels - became a Christian. I love that story - heard it in India, just don't remember exactly where.

From there, we took a drive to Nagpur and a plane ride to get to Kolkata where we stayed overnight before leaving for Parkijuli where I was happy to meet Dr. Susan, one of our volunteers, who has been helping Dr. Iswary who is often the only doctor at this hospital. After Mike had a tour of the hospital, we drove to Guwahati to catch a flight back to Kolkata. From there, we had a long drive to Mohulpahari where, again, Mike got a good tour of the hospital and met the people. After that, we had the long drive back to Kolkata. Then Mike went back to Chicago and I returned to Vellore to pack for my vacation.

I left for Hawaii a couple of days later. First I flew to Delhi and from there to Tokyo where I had a long layover. I rented a sleeping room there at the airport and it was really nice. It had a bed, a shower, (even a heated toilet seat) outlets to charge my electronics, and best of all – a bed!

The next flight was to Honolulu where my friend JP met me. Some friends from my previous time in Hawaii had offered to have me stay with them and I have a lovely room with a lanai. I went to an Ash Wednesday service with them. I am adjusting to the time change – a very big one, 15 ½ hours – and I have been to the beach to watch the boogy-boarders and enjoy the beauty God has blessed these islands with.

I am going to enjoy this vacation, but I hope you will continue to pray for me. There is never a time when I don't need those prayers! Peace, John

John Lunn, pastor and nurse, is international coordinator of the Lutheran Health Care Program in Tanzania and India, and we support his ministry as the Superior Central Conference of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, ELCA.



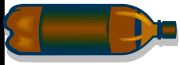
Fundraisers for Youth

There are several fundraisers going on to raise money to provide camperships for Fortune Lk.



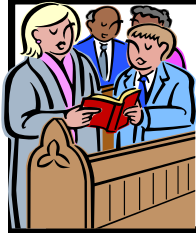
Book Swap/Donation: This is an ongoing fundraiser in the Fellowship Hall where you may have noticed one of the corners filled with books on shelves. Take a look at these. If you find something you would be interested in reading, just put a donation into the can. If you have books to donate, drop them off.

Econo Food slips: These are still being collected. Immanuel gets a small percentage of the amounts, but they can add up significantly. Please place your receipts into the collection box in the Stewardship Center by the Fellowship Hall.



Pop cans & bottles are collected & can be brought to the church. Containers are available near the stairs in the Stewardship Center for dropping them off.

Gordon Food Service will give a percentage of what you spend at GFS to Immanuel when you sign up at the store. **Thank you for supporting our youth and Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp!**



Christian Women's Fellowship will be at Immanuel Lutheran Church, on May 12, 2016, from 9:30 am to 12:00 am. The cost is \$5.00. To make reservations, call Annette at 475-5329.

FORTUNE LAKE CAMPER NEWS

Registration for Summer 2016, "The Jesus Way," is now open. Join us for a life changing experience this summer.

Last year's campers have been mailed postcards with the summer schedule. The brochures are designed mainly for new campers who aren't familiar with FLLC. Information is available at: www.fortunelake.org (click on: 'Summer Camp and Registration').

EARLY REGISTRATION is encouraged. If by March 1, get a **\$25 discount + free t-shirt**; by April 1, get **\$25 discount**. Other discounts are available, including **\$10 savings** for registering on-line which is what you should try to do.

The NEW TREE HOUSES will lodge the Vagabonds (5th-6th graders) and the Night Owls (5th-8th one week, 9th-12th another week), and will be an option for Family Weekend.

The NEW camp phone number is (906) 214-2267 (CAMP)



Get your scholarship information into Camp ASAP. For more information, call the number above or contact Stacy McEachern, 361-9123 or stacymc27@aol.com.



IMMANUEL WOMEN of the ELCA - A CELEBRATION OF CHURCH WOMEN

The WELCA **Booklet of Events for the 2016 Year** are now available. Be sure to pick one up from the shelves in the entrances or from the kitchen, or from your circles. Thanks.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 4, 2016, at 1:00 pm, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Ishpeming. Women from Ishpeming & Negaunee will be participating in this annual ecumenical world-wide service. All are encouraged to attend.

The Executive Board of Immanuel Women of the ELCA will meet on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at 7 PM, in the Multi-Purpose room. Representatives from each Circle should try to attend and contribute thoughts and suggestions for the betterment of the group.

Circles are now meeting. Please note any Circles and Projects listed in the NEW ELCA Handbook for 2016.

Fortune Lake Scholarship applications for the Womens and Kid's Week should be applied for in writing to Jonelle Collins, 109 W. Main Street, Negaunee, or brought to the church office by **March 15, 2016**.

A Spring Event is being planned. Watch for more information in the Sunday bulletins and posters.

"PROJECT OF THE MONTHS of MARCH & APRIL- is "Health Kits" for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). This includes 1 hand towel, 1 bar soap, 1 metal nail clipper (with file), 1 comb, 1 wash cloth, 1 toothbrush, and 6 band-aids (1/2" and 3/4", NOT assorted) Wrap all articles in the towel and tie with a ribbon.

W.E.L.C.A. CALENDAR for March

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - 1:00 pm, Quilting at the Church
- 4 - 1:00 pm, World Day of Prayer
(Trinity Lutheran Church in Ishpeming)
- 14 - 7:00 pm, Naomi Circle at the Church
- 15 - 9:30 pm, Miriam Circle (Hostesses:
Luanne Skrenes and Virginia Paulson)
- 16 - 1:30 am, ABigail Circle, meets at the
Lakeview Apartments

W.E.L.C.A. CALENDAR for April

- 7, 14, 21, 28 - 1:00 pm, Quilting at the Church
- 6 - 7:00 pm, Executive Board Meeting
- 18 - Naomi Circle
- 19 - 9:30 am Miriam Circle
- 20 - 1:30 pm Abigail Circle (meets at
Lakeview Apartments)

WELCA has donated: \$10.00 - Betty Mager

Projects Upcoming: The Health Kits.

LOVE INC, CUP, IS LOOKING FOR AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Do you

- Feel concerned about those in need?
- Feel called to be involved in solutions?
- Believe in Christ's power to transform lives?
- Have gifts and skills in the areas of management and leadership?
- Have a desire to serve God, by mobilizing our local churches to serve?

Love INC is seeking an experienced professional to give direction and leadership toward the achievement of the vision and mission, implement the strategic goals and objectives and ensure fidelity to the Love INC model.

Duties include representing the organization's mission and core values; cultivating and nurturing relationships with pastors and churches, agencies, donors and businesses; overseeing program plans and initiatives; overseeing all aspects of ministry operations; managing staff and volunteers; participating in the development and implementation of the annual budget & fund-raising; and supporting the board of directors.

This position requires a bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in management, social work, organizational leadership, ministry, community development, or related field. It requires a minimum of 3-5 years leadership experience, excellent verbal and written communication and interpersonal skills. You must be a strong team player & able to work with a variety of people, but also possess the ability to work independently and take initiative. Experience supervising paid staff and volunteers is necessary. The ability to teach and influence others is required. You must be able to handle multiple priorities effectively and under pressure. Computer skills are necessary. There must be a commitment to Christianity and local Christian churches, and the churches' mandate to serve people in need as an agent of transformation is essential.

Love INC CUP, a nonprofit Christian organization, is seeking an Executive Director. Love INC CUP exists to mobilize churches to transform lives and the community, in the Name of Christ. If you have gifts and skills—and a passion for mobilizing churches to serve our neighbors in need—perhaps God is calling you to this role. If you would like more information—or to request an application packet—please email us at:

loveinccup@gmail.com, or see the Pastors.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION & AN APPLICATION PACKET, SEND AN EMAL TO: loveinccup@gmail.com.

Council Corner

No report from the February Council Meeting. The next Council Meetings are on March 15th and April 19th. The 128th Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, February 14th. If you desire to see the minutes of that Annual meeting, please stop by the office and ask for a copy. Thank you.



CARPET FUND NEWS

If you are wondering about the 'Carpet Fund', wonder no longer. We have been working with Carpet Specialists/Carpet One and McCabe, and have gotten preliminary estimates from both. Those estimates are comparable. Both companies recommend NOT sealing the floor.

In my experience and other's comments, we recommend Carpet Specialists.

We're looking at carpet squares (which is recommended with the amount of traffic) over most of the Fellowship Hall, but laminate or tile by the serving area. We are NOT doing anything with the kitchen at this time.

Carpet Specialists' estimate at this time is: \$ 13,993. The council has approved up to \$ 15,000 for the carpet. Our current funds are at \$ 7,000.

We are requesting specific contributions for this project. We have a selection group formed, and once we are close to the present estimate amount, we will select styles or patterns and get more definite estimates.

The congregation will be given opportunity to see the selections before a contract is signed.

Donations may be given in pew envelopes or regular offering envelopes, with a designation to "CARPET FUND" noted somewhere on the envelope.

Thank you for any consideration and / or donation you may make to this fund.

Respectively submitted,
Cheryl Dix, Chairperson



THE GREATEST OF THESE

Love never ends. (v. 8)

I love visiting homebound members, but I'm always a little sad when people apologize for not being able to attend worship any more. I want our homebound members to know that it is absolutely impossible for them to not be at church. They are part of its foundation; they built the community with years of offerings and worship and presence. The people there today are only there because of all the saints who were there before, who laid the foundation of faith that the rest of us stand on.

The love our older members have for God and for the church does not disappear or die out. It becomes part of the love of the next generations, passed on and around and through as we sing and eat and wash in the body of Christ. For thousands of years, the love of God has been moving from hand to hand and heart to heart. It binds us together in such a way that neither distance nor death can break. Through all the changes the church has faced and will face, that love comes to us from Jesus, and it won't ever die.

Lord, Jesus, let your love pour through me to create space for others in your church. Amen.

Prayer concern: Those who are homebound.



LAY SCHOOL NEWS - Winter 2016

The Winter Semester (already in session) is the first semester of a revised Lay School curriculum (included as a separate attachment). The major change is that a 3- course sequence of church history has been added as students have indicated that they thought it was a piece that was missing. Changes also include material from some classes being blended into others, some have had adjustments in the number of hours. It also means that for part of the semester 3 courses will be offered which means during those weeks we will start a little bit earlier than in the past. We hope these changes meet the needs of students and we welcome your comments.

The Winter 2016 Semester continue every Tuesday until April 12 (**except for March 22 which is the Tuesday of Holy Week**).

Classes will be held at Bethany, Ishpeming (715 Mather Ave.) with Pastor Warren Geier as the site coordinator.

CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY II SECOND ARTICLE (already in session) February 9-April 5 (2:30-4pm) (8 sessions)

A study of the second article of the Nicene Creed concerning who Jesus is and what he represents, and what is it about the human condition that necessitates Christ and the cross? What are the historical foundations, especially regarding the nature of Christ? (Pastor Steve Solberg; Immanuel, Negaunee)

LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS

March 1-April 12 (4-6pm) (6 sessions)

This course will introduce and explore the Lutheran confessional documents, especially the Augsburg Confession and Luther's Large Catechism. Other confessional documents will also be noted. (Pastor Kenneth Lahners; Trinity, Ishpeming)

ETHICS

March 1-April 12 (6:30-8:30pm) (6 sessions)

As people of faith we often struggle with the proper response to the issues of the day. This is a course on ethical behavior in light of the cross and God's call to righteousness. (Pastor Jim Duehring; Prince of Peace, Harvey)

Again, please note that classes meeting during March will not meet on March 22nd, the Tuesday of Holy Week.

A reminder that there is no tuition; the only cost is for books and instructors do the best they can to keep that within reason. Students have been responsible for getting their own books.

As is always the case, we need new students! It should be emphasized though that one does not have to sign up for all the classes, one does not have to complete all the classes in a certain period of time, one does not even have to complete all the classes ever. You can take as much or as little as works for your schedule and your interests. There is reading to do outside of class and some teachers suggest an occasional short paper but the program is designed to be flexible. Also, please note that Lay School is not designed to produce Licensed Lay Ministers. While that is a possibility and some graduates have gone in that direction, most students are just interested in growing in faith & becoming more active in their own congregations.

To register for classes, or for more detailed information or if you have specific questions, contact your pastor or Pastor Geier (486-4351; pastor@bethanyishpeming.org).

Project Feed a Neighbor invites You!



Project Feed a Neighbor is our Christian effort on the west-end of Marquette County to provide food to resupply the shelves of our local food pantries at St. Vincent de Paul and Salvation Army. Be a part of giving and collecting this non-perishable food by volunteering to prepare donation bags, be a driver or walker who collects donated food across Negaunee, or help feed other volunteers. Sign up at church (sign-up sheets are on the upper hallway resource table) or by contacting the church office. The following elements all begin at Mitchell United Methodist Church in Negaunee.

- **April 7** (Thursday) at **6:00 pm** – Assemble Collection Bags
- **April 9** (Saturday) at **10:00 am** – Distribute Collection Bags across Negaunee
- **April 16** (Saturday) at **10:00 am** - Collect Food Bags from across Negaunee and take to Negaunee's St. Vincent de Paul
- Provide food for volunteers on the above Saturdays (**April 9 and/ or 16**)



Council News



At the Council meeting held on February 16th, the following persons were elected to the various

offices: President - **Walter Scanlon**; Vice President—**Cheryl Dix**; Secretary - **Hayley Smith**; Treasurer (non Council member) - **Dan Kill**; New members: **Larry Dillman, Ely Goupille, Dan Lindblom, Maxine Sylvester**; Returning members: **Susan Eman, John Kamppinen, Mary Ann Laukka, Janet Penhale, and Robert Sylvester**. We welcome all of the new members and thank each of you for your ministerial service to Immanuel Lutheran Church, "God With Us, renewing lives in Christ through the Holy Spirit".

LAY SCHOOL FOR MISSION COURSE SCHEDULE
Effective January 2016

	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2	SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4	SEMESTER 5
BIBLE	Gospels (18)	NT Letters (22) Book of Acts: Then and Now	Pentateuch (12)	Prophets I Isaiah/Jeremiah (12)	OT Writings (15) Prophets II (12) Apocalyptic (12)
THEOLOGY	World Religions (12)	Christian Theology I (11)	Christian Theology II (12) Ethics (12)	Christian Theology III (12)	Polity: Life Together (6)
MINISTRY	Worship and Liturgics (15)	Ecumenism (9)	Spiritual Development (12)	Preaching: From Text to Sermon (24)	Stewardship of God's Gifts (15)
HISTORY	Early Church History (15)	Reformation History (12)	Lutheran Confessions (12)	American Church History (12)	
TOTAL	60	60	60	60	60



HOSPITAL VISITATION

Please let us know if you go to the hospital or are planning on surgery. Due to privacy laws, we do not have access to any records at any hospitals. Patients sign a release form so the pastor can visit, but this is not always passed along. Be sure to call 475-9161 or 204-2029 to inform us. We want to visit you!

*If you have a child in College and / or in the Military, **PLEASE** let the office know their address. Thank you.*

College/Military Addresses

If changes/additions, please call the office, 475-9161.

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD

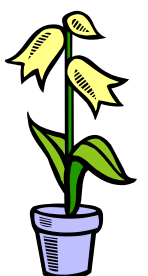
News – Visit: ngls@nglsynod.org

Lutheran Campus Ministry

www.nmulutherans.org 228-8033



NOTICE: Did you know that Immanuel sends out cards, notes and/or care packages several times a year to our college students? BUT... we don't always know who they are. If you have a child in college, please call the church office (475-9161) to give us their address so that they may be put on our list.



Don't Forget.....we do battery recycling here at Immanuel. This is a wonderful way to care for God's creation. We recycle **ALL BATERIES**, including phone, hearing-aid, and any others. Drop them off in the Stewardship area, into the container for that purpose.

SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM



The *Simply Giving* Program is available at Immanuel. It is an automated giving program between you & your bank or credit union & Immanuel. This program allows members to make their contributions via electronic funds transfer. It is free! Contact the office for more information.



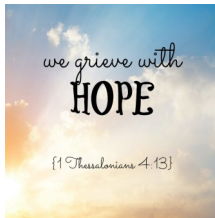
HAVE YOU NOTICED? *There's a new employee in our office. Her name is **Sharon Cottrell**, and she is now working every Monday from 8 am to 2 pm. If you see her, give her a "Hello!! Welcome to Immanuel" greeting. Sharon lives here in Negaunee in the Lakeview Apartments. She has been doing a great job in the office, and we're happy to have her on board with us.*

Devotional Resources Available



The Daily Texts is a unique devotional book with two Bible verses for each day - one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. These are followed by a prayer based on the TRIP – Thanks, Regret, Intercession, and Purpose – written by a different person each month. Scripture readings to read through the Bible in one year are also provided. Each Sunday has a Watchword for the week plus a hymn for the church season. The Small Catechism in prayer form is also included. Check the upper hallway resource table. Suggest donation is \$8.

Our Northern Great Lakes Synod offers a wonderful **online prayer resource**, including a daily devotional thought. Check it out at www.nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully/daily-devotions.html.



THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Our grief group, *The Compassionate Friends*, supports parents and families who have lost children through death. We meet at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Negaunee (520 US Highway 41;

across from Beef-a-Roo), on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, from 7 pm - 9 pm., unless explicitly changed.



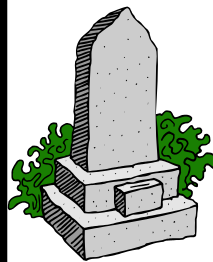
BAPTISM: WE WELCOMED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD...

... on Monday, January 10th, 2016 **Anthony James Newman**, child of Katie Ritzenhein-Hytinen and Steve Hytinen. His sponsors were Joanne and Jeff Gibitz..



BIRTH: WELCOME & GOD'S BLESSINGS TO:

Siiri Kay (Lenten) Lawson & Griffin Luke Lawson on the birth of a girl, **Seija Mary Lawson**, born Friday, January 8th, at Bell Memorial. Seija weighed 6#s, 7 oz., & was 18.5" long. Proud grandparents are Heidi and Kim Lenten.



SYMPATHY & GOD'S PEACE TO:

.... Kathleen (Dennis) Partanen on the loss of her mother, **Helen Johanna Mantela**, on Wednesday, December 23rd. Also, condolences to grandson, Davin (Kari) Partanen, and great-grandchildren: Alex, Seija, & Hanna Partanen, and all of the Mantela/Partanen Families.

.... Jeanne (David) Sironen-McCartney, on the loss of her father-in-law, **Jim McCartney**. Also, condolences to all of the McCartney Family.

.... Cindy (Duane) Sirtola, on the loss of her father, **Donald R. Anderson**, on Tuesday, December 29th. Also, condolences to grandchildren: Tiffany Sirtola and Crystal (Craig) Zarbeck, and grandson, Benjamin Zarbeck, and all of the Sirtola / Anderson Family.

.... Stanley Mager on the loss of his wife, **Betty J. Mager**, on Sunday, January 17. Also, condolences to daughter, Kimberly (Gary) Stille, granddaughter, Kelli Stille, brother-in-law, Robert (Nancy) Mager, sister-in-law, Beverly (John) Roberts, and all of the Mager Family.

.... Shari (Eric) Koski, on the loss of her father, **Stephen J. Holmgren**, on Monday, January 18. Also, condolences to grandsons, Ethan & Landin Koski, and all of the Holmgren Family.

.... Steven (Sandra) Etelamaki & Michael (Sheila) Etelamaki, on the loss of their father, **Tauno J. "Doc" Etelamaki**, on Wednesday, January 20. Also, condolences to grandchildren: Erika & Lisa Etelamaki, and all of the Etelamaki Family.

.... Pastor Marcia (Steve) Solberg, on the loss of her brother, **Ernie Koschade**, on Monday, January 25. Also, condolences to his daughter, Kachine Koschade, and all of the Koschade Family.

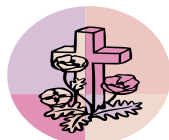
.... Shane (Peter) Ruokola, on the loss of her father-in-law, **Peter M. Ruokola**, on Wednesday, January 27. Also, condolences to grandchildren: Peter and Kaden Ruokola, and all of the Ruokola Family.

.... Diane (David) Faust on the loss of her sister, **Barbara Ann Marmilick**, on Sunday, February 7th, in Iron Mountain at the Dickinson Cnty Memorial Hospital. Also, condolences to nephews: Daniel (Holly) and Eric (Chelsey) Faust, and all of the Marmilick Family.

MEMORIALS

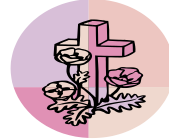
IN MEMORY OF DONALD R ANDERSON

Jonelle Collins
Grace Jalonen
Alice Mutkala



IN MEMORY OF BETTY J. MAGER

Vicki Elliott
Stanley Mager



IN MEMORY OF PETER M. RUOKOLA

Reuven & Marlene Romback

Congratulations to...



... **Marina Pascoe**, 5th grade student at Ishpeming Middle School, received all A's for the 2nd quarter honor roll. She also took 1st place in the district spelling bee. Congratulations!! **Marina** is the daughter of Michael & Michelle Pascoe of Ishpeming.

... the following students for being named to the fall semester Dean's List: at Michigan Tech University in Houghton: **Jason Bell** and **Taylor DeWitt**; at St. Norbert College in DePere, WI.: **Taylor Debski**; at Northern Michigan University in Marquette: **Alexander Dobbs, Abbi Kill, Kendra Klein, Louis Lenten, Philip Lindblom**, and **Nicholas Sharon**. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must take 12 or more credits and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or better.

... the following students for being named to Bothwell Middle School, Marquette, honor roll for the first quarter: 8th GRADE: **Spenser K. Waite**; 7th GRADE: **Brandon S. Josefsen, Travis J. Young**; 6th GRADE: **Nathan D. Josefsen**.

... **Betty Kinnunen**, for recently being an addition to Select Realty Inc., in Marquette. **Betty** has more than 30 years of experience helping buyers & sellers of all types of real estate, commercial, residential, recreational, vacant land.

... **Reuven Romback**, for being chosen an In-house officer for 2016 for the Negaunee Township fire/EMS Department. This is **Reuven's** 32nd term as In-house officer, and 19th term as treasurer.

... **Emily Gauthier**, daughter of Jason & Laura Gauthier, for being a member of the Negaunee Nets 6th-grade girls basketball team, winning all of their games and capturing the title at the Modeltown Shootout held in Gwinn. Her team also won the Negaunee Irontown Classic basketball tournament in January.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW OF ANY RECOGNITION THAT I CAN INCLUDE IN OUR BEACON FOR THE MONTH. THANK YOU. You can call it in, email it in, send it in, just let me know so that it can be included. Thanks.

Words of Thanks



A sincere and heart-felt Thank You to those who sent cards of 'get well' wishes, to me, most of all for the prayers which have been doing the job of helping me recover from the long journey, which is almost complete. Again, "Thank You!!" Yours in Christ, Betty Lukkarinen

*Thank you so much for the donations for our Women. They are very needed and greatly appreciated. Best to you All!
The Great Lake's Recovery Center's Staff*

Thank You for your gift to support the mission of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. This partnership strengthens our mutual ministry. We had a safe & blessed summer season with over 500 campers enjoying camp & learning about 'the Love that never ends.' Summer staff teams also visited 13 different congregations to lead programs in those churches. Our 85th Anniversary Celebration & 'Treehouse' fundraising campaign was successful. We look forward to serving you in the near future. Let us know how we might enhance our partnership of ministry with your congregation. Thank you again. Together in Christ, Pastor Tracy Polzin,

- To **June Jarvi** for assembling the weekly church Sunday Bulletins.
- To **Sharon Cottrell, Millie Isaacson, Shirley Koski, Mary Ann Laukka, Mary Parkkonen, and Lillian Rivers** for assembling the January - February Beacon.
- To **Alice Zinsser** for organizing the "un-decorating" of the church and for all of the help she received that day: **Bill Zinsser, Foo, Judy & Dave Hallgren, Bev & Dave Stromquist, Jim Kallioinen, Don Palomaki, and any other person I may have missed seeing.**
- **Miles Parkkonen** for 'burning' all of the CD's Immanuel sends to our homebound persons the last few weeks.
- To **Robert Sylvester** for painting various areas in the church after water damage and wear.
- To **Larry Dillman & Robert Sylvester** for repairing the gas modene pipe in the kitchen.
- To **ALL OF THE ALTAR GUILD WORKERS** for setting up the communion trays, paraments & attending the altar area. Also, thank you to **the other volunteers.**
- To **Jonelle Collins, Linda Dillman, Judy Hallgren, Martha Hayward, Shirley Koski, John Meier, Dean Patron, Virginia Paulson, Ruth Poutanen, Connie Scanlon, and Bob Sylvester** who are our Lay Eucharistic Ministers who deliver communion to our shut-ins each month; to **Fae Collins, Linda Dillman, Sharon Gagnon, Judy & Dave Hallgren, Linda Ogea, Ruth Poutanen, Dave & Bev Stromquist, and Leslie Suardini**, for their dedication in counting the offering last month; to **Ruth Poutanen & Fae Collins** for making the shut-in CDs; to **Mary Ann Laukka** for scheduling the Greeters, to **Terry Basolo** for scheduling our Communion Assistants; to **Connie Scanlon & Alice Zinsser** for scheduling the Lecturers; to **Kathleen Partanen** for the college student mailings & **Carol Romback** for the military member mailings; to **Linda Dillman** for the Cradle Role. To all **January & February Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, & Coffee Servers** who volunteered, even though you were not scheduled. *Thank you!*





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those members of our congregation who will celebrate birthdays in the months of:

(..... Continued April, 2016)

MARCH * * * * *

- March 1 Philip Lindblom, Erik Ulvila
- March 2 Vera Palomaki
- March 3 Marilyn Kunnari
- March 4 Alex Carlson
- March 5 Colby Champion, Corey Koski, Alex LaFreniere, Peter Menge, John Neiswander, Brooke Nyman
- March 6 Darlene Pepin, Jeffrey Rankinen
- March 7 Ethan Couture, Todd Hendrickson, Timothy Kjellman, Megan Syrjala
- March 8 Shelloy Mattia
- March 9 Lucas LaFreniere, Anita Pope, Patricia Roberts
- March 10 Lindsay Hemmila, Jackson Karki, Susan Karki, Zachery Kirkland, Jacqueline Olinske
- March 11 Steven Carlson, Brandon Coron, Taylor DeWitt, Max Lenten, Tricia Montgomery
- March 12 Nancy Burton, John A. Hemmila, Kenneth Larson, Heather Thompson
- March 13 Rory Rankinen
- March 14 Amy Josefsen, Jerry Poutanen
- March 15 Matthew DeWitt, Danielle Koski, Nancy Kurin
- March 16 Jennie Meier, Karen Saari, Paul Smith, Luke Syrjala
- March 17 Kevin Bell, Byron Butterfield, Norman B. Laurila, LeAnn Makela, Becky Nelson, Susanna Suardini
- March 18 Whitney Butterfield, Amber Herman, Nancy Toyra
- March 19 Paige Yoho
- March 20 Davin Partanen
- March 21 Alyssa Denofre, Diane Larson
- March 22 Jeremy Dobbs, Paul Koski, Brent Soeltner, Al Sundine
- March 23 Richard Aper, Dorothy Jarvi, Preston Koski, Shirley Lahti, Stacy McEachern
- March 24 Howard Lehto
- March 25 James Garn, Alice Mutkala, Sara Wallner
- March 26 Linda Cornell, Taylor Lambertson, Ethan Wallner
- March 27 Samuel Hayward, Debra Hicks, Karina Suardini
- March 28 Ashley Butterfield, Derek Larson, Nickolas Larson, Michael Malette, Valerie Paulson
- March 29 Gary Vidlund, Jr.
- March 30 Trevor Romback, Reed Spickerman
- March 31 Michael Grimes, Mitchell LaBelle, Marcus Nelson, Kate Rasmussen

APRIL * * * * *

- April 1 Joanna Champion, Wayne Connors, Joyce Koski, Robert Pynnonen
- April 2 Kaleb Collins, Douglas Jarvi, Tyler Thomas
- April 3 Hanna Kallioinen, Ethan Koski, Kaylee Massie, Marina Pascoe
- April 4 Nicholas Sharon
- April 5 Dorothy Hill, Jill Sladek
- April 6 Gabriel Hietikko, Marlene Parkkonen

- April 7 Dennis Stanaway
- April 8 Linda Dillman, Carole Spickerman
- April 9 Stephanie Miller
- April 10 Brian Basto, Cooper Dost, Amara Wallner
- April 11 Derrick DuMoulin, Amanda Judkins, Madeline LaBelle, Evan Menge, Shane Nyman
- April 12 John Kump, Luke Lawson, Shelli Miller, Victor Romback
- April 13 Chelsea Ault
- April 14 Lindsey Tincknell
- April 15 Troy Connors, Andrew Hill, Liliana Saunders
- April 16 Luke DeWitt, Dale Jarvi, Amy Kallioinen
- April 18 Mary Gervae, Connie Heinlein, Mark Miller
- April 19 Amanda Carey, Patricia Joyal, Rachel Lambertson, Marshall Peters, Steven Smith, Eliza Williams
- April 20 Luanne Skrenes
- April 21 Becky DeWitt, Laina Partanen
- April 22 Delanee Lenten, Carol Rankinen, Kathy Stambaugh
- April 23 Connie Champion, Hailee Richards
- April 24 Rudoph Gannon
- April 25 Arthur Hibbard-Leppanen, Cheryl Kerkela
- April 26 Joann Connors, Kristin DeMarois, Zachary Fredin, Madison Holcomb, Braiden Noskey, Hailly Thompson, Sherry Ulvila, Matthew Wickstrom
- April 27 Jennifer Larson, JoBeth Williams
- April 29 McKenna Champion, Greta Hill, James Kallioinen, Debra Korhonen
- April 30 Jhon Jarvi, Alexandra Johnson, Kirstyn Noll



Happy Birthday to All of You !!



CONGRATULATIONS!

GOD'S BELSSINGS to those members of Immanuel who celebrate milestones in their marriage in the months of:

MARCH & APRIL

20 YEARS & OVER

- 03/15 - Jim and Diana Bergh-Hetrick - 25 years
- 04/02 - Kevin and Lori Bell - 22 years
- 04/28 - Steve and Valerie Paulson- 26 years

30 YEARS & OVER

- 03/15 - Michael and Sondra Grimes - 30 years
- 03/28 - Richard and Verdis Grinols - 30 years
- 03/31 - John and Vicki Makinen - 33 years

40 YEARS & OVER

- 03/05 - Dan and Fae Collins - 48 years
- 03/18 - Norman and Vickie Laurila - 49 years
- 03/20 - Ted and Millie Balzarini - 45 years
- 03/22 - Steven and Liisa Turri - 41 Years
- 04/24 - Michael and Paula Frustaglio - 40 years
- 04/25 - Pamela and Dale Anderson - 46 years

Web Page: www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org
 E-Mail Address: Office@ImmanuelNegaunee.org
 Telephone: (906)475-9161
 Pastors: Steven & Marcia Solberg
 Financial Secretary: Alice Mutkala
 Assistant Secretary: Sharon Cottrell
 Bookkeeper: Daniel V. Kill
 Organists: Connie Scanlon & Sue Pohlman
 Choir Director: Connie Lindblom
 Accompanist: Vicki Lempinen
 Ministers of Music: Connie & Dan Lindblom
 Custodian: Roland Koski



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

We hope you will gather with us.



March 20 - Palm Sunday
8:30 & 11 am
Procession with Palms

March 24 - Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm
Holy Communion

March 25 - Good Friday Services
12 noon - 3:00 pm

Ecumenical Services at
Eastwood Apostolic Lutheran Church, Negaunee



March 27 - Easter Sunday
Day of Resurrection

7:00 am - Sunrise Service
Holy Communion

8:30 & 11:00 am Services
Holy Communion

(Office Closed Monday, March 28)



cut here

Easter Flowers

Order by
Tuesday, March 22nd



For Easter, we will do the same thing we did at Christmas time. Many families find that purchasing Easter plants is increasingly expensive—up to \$25.00 a plant. In an effort to let more people remember their loved ones at this important time of the year, you will be able to simply give a memorial to "Easter Flowers." The money donated will be used to purchase Easter lilies and other plants. A memorial booklet will be published listing the contributions as well as who is being memorialized. These booklets will be distributed at all of our Easter services.

Due to the costs of flowers, we **suggest** a contribution of \$10.00 or more per name or family, although gifts of any amount will be accepted. Please fill in the information on this form for the Memorial Booklet. (Your clarity in writing or printing is of the utmost importance.) The deadline for contributing to the Easter fund is Tuesday, **March 22nd**.

Name of Contributor _____

In memory of _____

or

In honor of _____

Amount \$ _____

