

Emanuel Lutheran Church
March 2023
Enlightener



Michael Holman, LLM

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Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Congregational Leadership

Michael Holman, LLM

(231)824-6757 (cell) Email: holmi@1fj.com

Office Hours: Tuesday 1-5pm, Thurs. 9am-2pm

Council Members

Barb Bach
Ronda Barr
Richard Cooke
Christie Johnson
Leah Kainulainen
Sarah Kimball
Jolene Kokko

Office

Jolene Kokko ~
Office Assistant

Committee Leaders

Barb Bach ~ Stewardship
Sarah Kimball ~ Outreach
Betsy Koski ~ Christian
Education
Jane Sims ~ Worship & Music
Pam Bahrman ~ Cemetery
Business Manager
Dale Weingartner ~
Building & Property

Emanuel Lutheran Church has both a Facebook page and website! Catch up on upcoming and past events, our monthly calendar and Enlightener newsletters at

www.be-lutheran.org



Sunday Worship begins at 9 a.m.
through June

***2023 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
March-June 9AM***

Birthday Blessings

March 1—

Johnny Bergdahl

March 5- Mark Shelton

March 14-Lani Yearicks

March 16-

Richard Cooke

March 20—

Karen Bahrman

March 23-Jeff Sims

March 27-Dean Wilson

March 28-

Sammy DuVall



*Anniversary
Blessings*

March 10-

Mark & Melissa

Krans



*Thank you to Sammy Duvall and
Patti Bergdahl for sponsoring the March
bulletins in memory of Donna Oliver.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

Date

Lector

Ushers

3/05

Betsy Koski

Tom & Barb Bach

3/12

Barb Bach

Roger Kimball

3/19

Patti Bergdahl

Richard Cooke

3/26

Betsy Koski

Needed

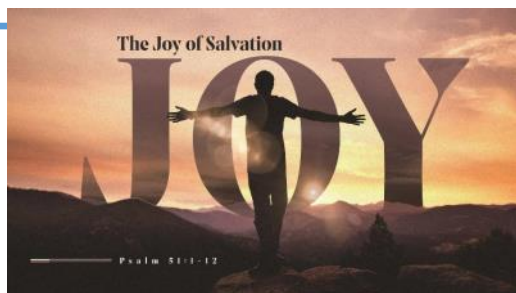
“Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a generous spirit.”

Psalm 51:12

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, God’s peace and grace be with you always.

Perhaps you are looking at the bible verse at the top of this page and saying to yourself that I didn’t quote that correctly, and I totally understand. During this Lenten season we proclaim every worship service “and uphold me with your free Spirit”. I know that these words of reassurance comfort us throughout our journey. The fact is if you look at other bible translations you will discover many different takes on this verse. Some make it abundantly clear that it is God’s Spirit that dwells with us, others tell us that it is our willingness to obey God. Whatever the translation it is clear that in God’s salvation there is joy!

Think about that for a second or perhaps throughout these next forty days. Restore to me the Joy of your salvation. Traditionally we look at ourselves during Lent with an eye on self-examination looking at all that we have done wrong. During this time, we can find ourselves in dark places looking for a way out. The psalmist reminds us that there is Joy to be found when we turn to the Lord for all our needs in that salvation is at the doorstep, God is willing to restore us and place a generous Spirit in us. Rather than this being a time of sorrow where we wallow around contemplating our sinfulness, we seek forgiveness that we might know joy.



Should you choose to take the path of self-examination remember that God forgives and if you are looking for a different path remember that God forgives and fills us with a generous Spirit that we might go into this world of darkness and share the joy received in salvation declaring to others the love that God has for all of creation. Listen to the words that declare you a forgiven sinner that you might receive great joy. Spend time doing for others, demonstrate what goodness and mercy look like, show kindness and justice let that generous Spirit lead you to new life.

Shalom,
Michael

March Scriptures	Reading	Psalm	Gospel
March 5	Genesis 12: 1-4a	Psalm 16:5-8	Matthew 20: 1-16
March 12	Romans 5:1-11	Psalm 45:6-7	Matthew 22:1-14
March 19	Ephesians 5:8-14	Psalm 43:2-4	Matthew 25:1-13
March 26	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 98:4-9	Matthew 25:331-46

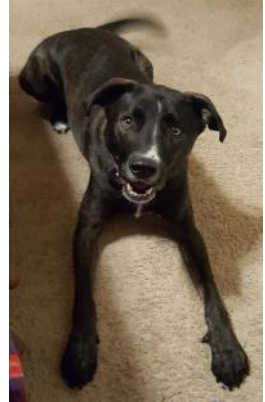


Prayer Shawl
Ministry

We have many beautiful hand made Prayer Shawls available for those in need. Prayer shawls are given to those who are experiencing a difficult time, are in need of comfort and healing, to let them know they are not alone and to provide them with a sense of God's peace and healing. Please let the office know if you would like one, or know of someone in need of a prayer shawl.

You Can Learn a Lot from a Dog

A daily practice of mine is to walk my dog, Juergen. Juergen is always eager to go for a walk. No surprise there! My wife describes Juergen as “4-Legged Joy with a Tail.” I named Juergen after one of my favorite theologians, Juergen Moltmann.



Recently we took a walk in a large pasture area on public land. Fresh snows and ice left the snow deep but very crusty on the top. Juergen was so excited for his walk, but this time he sensed early on that there would be problems. He ran out ahead of me, but he was very much slowed down by the crusty snow breaking way and his legs sinking into the deep snow. It was very difficult for him to “blaze” a new trail on his own.

I felt sorry for Juergen for not having the typical freedom to merely bounce on ahead of me. Eventually, Juergen slowed down. I could tell he was becoming fatigued, and this walking experience was not pleasant at all. I, too, was having difficulty blazing my own trail. I really should have been wearing snowshoes, but with my winter boots I was able to stomp down and create size 13 divots in the deep snow.

What happened next caught my attention. My dog slowed down. He then started following me so that his paws could easily follow in my footprints without him having to break through snow. Even though it slowed him down, Juergen was having a much more enjoyable time following in my clear footprints in the snow.

Sometimes when the snow was not so deep, Juergen would leap out ahead of me and make his footprints. Then, when the snow got deep again, Juergen slowed down and started following my footprints.



You can see the obvious spiritual lesson here! Jesus calls us to follow him. Sometimes we bounce out ahead of Jesus with bold confidence that we can handle whatever life has to throw at us. Then we encounter the inevitable deep snow with an icy crust. We fall in. We have to slow down. For a moment we keep trying to blaze our own trail. Finally, if we are humble enough to slow down, we can wait for the Master to pass. We can more efficiently continue our journey following in the big and confident footsteps of the Master, Jesus.

Jesus has gone before us to show us the way. Jesus said, “I am the Way.” Thanks be to God that Jesus has the patience to wait upon us when we foolishly bolt out ahead and get hip deep in trouble.

That day my dog taught me a lot about my Lord’s loving patience with me and the confident path of Jesus.

~Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission



Thank you for your continued support of our outdoor food pantry! Now that the winter season is here, we cannot put canned items in the pantry since they will freeze. A winter seasonal list of dry foods and personal items is now available, and thank you for this community resource!



We continue to collect Econo Receipts to support World Hunger. The collection box is on the table near the far north window in the fellowship hall. Thank you to Toni Peterson for tabulating and submitting the receipts!



The sign up sheet to sponsor our monthly bulletin costs is at the entrance to the sanctuary from the fellowship hall. The cost is \$20 a month which helps to cover the paper, ink and the program’s resources. Please note on any payments that is what it is covering. Thank you for helping with our worship ministry.



A big thank you to those that donated to the Gwinn Clothes Closet! We continue collecting new or gently used socks, hats, mittens/gloves and children's underwear for the **Clothes Closet** at the Gwinn Elementary Schools for children in need and for those needing change of clothes while at school. The collection area is in the fellowship hall near the piano. A big thank you for your donations to the annual **Souper Bowl of Caring** in February with canned soup and monetary donations to the Lutheran World Hunger Relief effort. In April we will be giving Easter Meal Baskets to those in need in our community. If you or someone you may know have access to a Thrivent Grant to help with the cost, please let us know. Thank you!

Sarah Kimball

March Mobile Food Pantry Trucks

(according to their website)



Wednesday, March 1, 12 Noon at

Eden Lutheran Church, 1150 M-28, **Munising**

Wednesday, March 8, 12 Noon at Building 604 at Avenue C and

Third, (Corner of Ave. C and Third Street), **KI Sawyer**

Thursday, March 9, 10AM at Silver Creek Church Thrift Store

219 Silver Creek Road, **Harvey**

Wednesday, March 15, 12 Noon at NMU Berry Event Center at

1401 Presque Isle, **Marquette**

Wednesday, March 29, 4 pm at Grace Lutheran Church,

558 W. M-35, **Gwinn**



The NMU Campus Ministry invites you to a concert and dessert fundraiser to benefit our pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland in May. "Songs for the Journey" will take place **Friday, March 24 at 7 pm** at

Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette. There will be music, stories, and sharing of Celtic Wisdom. A suggested donation of \$15 per person, \$30 per family and \$10 per student will be taken at the door. We look forward to sharing our excitement as we journey toward Iona!



BAY CLIFF HEALTH CAMP

Bay Cliff Health Camp in Big Bay is now hiring for all positions for summer 2023. We are seeking camp

counselors, activities instructors, leadership staff, and professional and support staff. For more information, or to apply online, go to www.baycliff.org. Dates of employment for most roles are June 11-August 6, 2023.



Wednesday, March 1 – Skandia Hope Methodist Church
Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 15 – Community Covenant Church
Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 29 – Emanuel Lutheran Church
Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Emanuel's Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 26, 2023 Highlights

~The meeting was called to order by Richard Cooke, 2022 Council President with 16 voting members present.

~Michael led devotions followed by Jane's piano accompaniment as we sang "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart."

~Michael thanked everyone for their commitment to doing Christ's work in our neighborhood. We welcomed new member Christie Johnson to Emanuel in 2022.

~ Adult Forum will now be at 10:30am following our 9am Sunday worship service beginning March 5, all are welcome!

~ Thank you to all that keep us going from Dale Weingartner with our ongoing maintenance of Emanuel!

~Tremendous thank you to Roger Kimball for his work throughout the seasons as care taker of our two cemeteries!

~ Richard Cooke will take photos/specs of our indoor ramp project with him to the Builder's Show in March to try to secure possible builders to take on the project and give their cost estimates.

~The 2023 budget was reviewed line by line treasurer Betsy Koski. Motion was made and carried to support a full scholarship for a camper from anywhere to the Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp (Summer Program) in memory of Donna Oliver. 2023 Budget passed with a \$61 increase from 2022.

~We welcome new council members Christie Johnson, Leah Kainulainen, Ronda Barr, and Barb Bach and Richard Cooke renewed his term too.

~Synod Conference Delegates are Sarah Kimball and Richard Cooke.

~Two Extra Synod Conference Delegates **are needed!**

~Betsy Koski & Christie Johnson & one more needed as the nominating committee.

~Sandi Ruotsi, Richard Cooke and Patti Bergdahl will serve as the auditing committee.



Complete minutes are posted on the bulletin boards. Extra 2022 Annual Reports are still available too. Thank you to all that attended and for the delicious potluck lunch!



March 2023

Office Hours Michael: Tues.. 1-5 pm, Thurs. 9am-2pm (Please call first)

Jolene: Wed. & Fri. 10am-2pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
			1  Skandia Hope Method- ist 6pm		3	4
5 9am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum	13	14	15  Commu- nity Covenant 6pm	16	17	18
19 9am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9am Worship 10:30am Adult Forum	27	28	29 Emanuel Lutheran 6 pm	30	31	

**The March Enlightener
Emanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
P.O. Box 160
Skandia, MI 49885**

*Emanuel Lutheran Church is a people centered
in Christ, rich in heritage and beauty; living out
Christ's openness to all. Our ministry is to
spread the Word of God in our community
through service, education and fellowship,
creating a sense of family as we break bread
together in the company of Christ.*

Join Us for our Sunday Services at 9 a.m.