

Emanuel Lutheran Church
April 2024
Enlightener



Pastor David Van Kley, Interim Pastor

(906) 250-1720

wilsonmqtmich@gmail.com

Emanuel Lutheran Church: 906-942-7245

emanuel@tds.net www.be-lutheran.org

Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Congregational Leadership

Pastor David Van Kley, Interim Pastor

**Cell: (906)250-1720
wilsonmqtmich@gmail.com**

Council Members

Barb Bach
Ronda Barr
Patti Bergdahl
Richard Cooke
Christie Johnson
Leah Kainulainen
Sarah Kimball

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
Richard Cooke ~
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 11 a.m.
through June.

2024 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church

Mar-June 11AM

July –October 9AM

Birthdays Blessings

April 1~Paula Jo Farmer

April 2~Carol Mattson

April 3~Dale Weingartner

April 7~

Breanna Bahrman

April 11 ~Tiffany Ridolphi

Hailey Ridolphi



April 17~Dan Rickaby

April 25~Paul Koski

April 30~Jean Contois



*Thank you Jane Sims for sponsoring the
April bulletins in honor of
family and friends.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

Date

Lector

Ushers

04/07

Christie Johnson

Richard Cooke

04/14

Betsy Koski

Jesse & Leah Kainulainen

04/21

Patti Bergdahl

Roger & Sarah Kimball

04/28

Jesse Kainulainen

Tom & Barb Bach

Would you like to receive the Enlightener via email instead of the traditional mail? Please send an email to the office: emanuel@tds.net or call the office at (906)942-7245, The newsletter is also available on our website

www.be-lutheran.org

***And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.
Matthew 28:20b***

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Risen Christ, God's grace and peace be with you always.

We have just celebrated a great moment perhaps the greatest moment in our Christian lives, the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus the Christ. While there are many other great moments in this life, the resurrection is what everything is based on giving us life out of death. Our new life in Christ is promised to us in the water and the word of baptism. We are marked with the cross of Christ forever empowered by the Holy Spirit to defeat death and live abundantly in service to all.

This is the last newsletter that I will be writing to you as I head into my retirement. You all have been so very kind and loving to me and have certainly enriched my life, thank you. It has been a great honor and privilege to have served you these past years.

The season of new life begins once again and you must recall the life you have through our Lord and Savior Jesus. The bible verse cited above is the last recorded words of Jesus in the book of St. Matthew. These words are shared with Jesus' disciples, not only the eleven, all who follow in the Way. We are all asked to move forward proclaiming the Good News throughout the world not to worry about the future for as the verse states Jesus is with you always, our comfort our rock and our salvation, ready to hold us in his tender embrace. Blessings on your journey.

Peace,

Michael your friend



**Preachers/Worship Leaders and Communion Schedule
for the Easter season**

April 7—Second Sunday of Easter— Pastor Dave Van Kley
Holy Communion

April 14—Third Sunday of Easter—Pastor Jim Duehring,
Assistant to the Bishop Holy Communion

April 21—Fourth Sunday of Easter—Betsy Koski Service of the
Word

April 28—Fifth Sunday of Easter—Walter Scanlon Service of
the Word

May 5—Sixth Sunday of Easter—Pastor Dave Van Kley
Holy Communion

April Scriptures	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
April 7	Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 133	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
April 14	Acts 3:12-19	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24: 36b-48
April 21	Acts 4:5-12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10;11-18
April 28	Acts 8:26-40	Psalm 22: 25-31	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:1-8



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.

Dear Friends,

It's Easter. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! We celebrate the gift of Jesus' resurrection, the ground of all our hope. Death does not rule over us. Death and sin no longer have dominion. We walk with Christ in newness of life.

It's also a time of transition for us. No longer winter, but not yet spring. We find ourselves in between. Mud season, we sometimes call it. Too early to plant a garden. Too early to put away the snow shovels and snowblowers. Yet, the April sun is warm. Trees and shrubs will soon put out their first buds. We'll see crocus, first of the flowers to splash color into our drab winter-weary gardens.

Mostly, though, we wait for the seasons to change. We go about our business and we wait. We make our plans and we wait. Our waiting is charged with anticipation.

For you, at Emanuel Lutheran and Bethany Lutheran, this is a time of transition. For five years, Michael Holman served as your pastoral leader. I know he served you well. With him as your leader, you lived out the gospel in your communities, bearing witness to Jesus' love in word and deed. Together, we give thanks for Michael's ministry and grieve his absence.

One day, you will call a new pastoral leader. We don't know who that will be yet. We can't be sure if that person will be an ordained minister or a licensed lay minister, or a deacon. We don't know if that person will serve full-time or part-time. But someone will come to fill that role. And you, together with that person, will continue to worship and support each other, serve your neighbors and reach out to the world beyond your community.

Until then, we will wait. We will go about our business and wait. We will make plans and wait. Our waiting will be charged with anticipation.

As an administrative interim pastor, I've been appointed by the Bishop of the Northern Great Lakes Synod to wait and make plans and go about this business with you. This means I will establish a rotation of worship leaders and preachers for Sundays, be available for pastoral emergencies, conduct or arrange for someone to officiate at funerals, and work with your council, teams, and committees to ensure that your ministry continues during the interim period. One of our major tasks together will be choosing a call committee and working with the Northern Great Lakes synod in the call process.

Because of planned out of town absences and commitments I've already made to preach and lead worship elsewhere for the first several months, I will only be able to be present at worship about once a month until later in the summer. During the fall, I will be present more often on Sundays. But I will always ensure that someone is available to lead worship and be on call for emergency situations.

In addition, because there are so many pastoral vacancies in our synod and a severe shortage of pastors to fill them, it will not always be possible to find a clergyperson to preside at Holy Communion. The policy of our church and synod is to permit lay leaders to officiate at the Lord's Supper only with special authorization by the Bishop, which generally means only when someone is the sole pastoral leader in a local congregation. For this reason, during the transition period, communion will not be included in every worship service. I will try to find clergy to officiate as often as possible—and at minimum, on one Sunday per month. I do apologize for this, as I recognize the importance of Holy Communion to all of us and the fact that our custom has been to celebrate the Supper every time we meet for worship.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. My phone number is 906-250-1720. My email address is wilsonmgtmich@gmail.com. I look forward to ministry with you during this time between.

Blessings,

Pastor Dave Van Kley

Who am I? About Pastor Dave

Although I was born in Indiana and my family moved a great deal when I was a child, I've lived in the Upper Peninsula most of my adult life. I graduated from Northern Michigan University and Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary (now Luther Seminary) in St. Paul, Minnesota.

I was ordained in 1982 and served as a full-time pastor in the church for more than 36 years before retiring. I have served the following congregations: Trinity, Stambaugh and Bethany, Amasa; Bethel, Ishpeming; All Saints, Wakefield; Custer Fellowship, Custer, SD; St Mark's, Marquette and Messiah, Marquette. For the last ten years, I was the senior pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church.

My wife, Arlene, and I have three children, who are all in their 30's and 40's: Emily (Olympia, Washington), Nicholas (Spearfish, SD), and Constance (Missoula, Montana). We have four grandchildren: Rudy, Abe, Sidney, and Ida! They bring us great joy!

After staying home with the children when they were young, Arlene worked as an accountant for many years. She retired in February. We live just northwest of Gwinn in a small home in the woods. We love it there! I enjoy gardening, fishing, reading, and skiing—and serving as a volunteer in our congregation, Grace Lutheran in Gwinn, as well as in the larger church.

As Michael Holman's clergy supervisor during his tenure as your licensed lay minister, I attended worship at both congregations several times and have come to know some of you a little already. I look forward to deepening those relationships!

Please let Pastor Dave or the church office know if you or a family member is hospitalized, ill, homebound or in need of help. We want to be sure to be here for you, with support, prayers and visits. If you can't notify Emanuel, please ask a family member to do so. Contact Pastor Dave directly at (906)250-1720 or Emanuel (906)942-7245.



Now that quilting for Lutheran World Relief has resumed on Tuesdays at 1 pm, all are invited to join us in the fellowship hall at Emanuel. Thank you for those that have donated sheets for the backings. We are always in need of sewing thread, neutral colors for machine sewing the edges closed. Remember no experience is necessary and it is a wonderful time for fellowship! If you have any questions, please talk with Christie, Jolene or Sarah. Hope you can come and please bring a friend too!

Farewell Party for Michael, March 24



Easter Sunday

*Saima Kainulainen and
Michael Holman, LLM*



March Council Meeting Highlights

~Devotions led by Michael with “Dwelling in the Word” reading of 1 Corinthians 11:17-33 “Holy Communion”, reflection followed with provided questions. All are encouraged to read the monthly reading supplied by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and join them via zoom for follow-up discussion , all information found on their website: **www.nglysnod.org**.

~Spring events coming “Plants, Pies and Summer Buys” on Saturday, June 1 at Emanuel. We will be providing lunches for the building crews for Habitat for Humanity this summer. Prayer Partner reveal and exchange on Palm Sunday during fellowship.

~Haglund Cemetery Clean-up is May 5th, no date set for Emanuel’s Cemetery. Adopt-A-Highway dates have been received with spring clean-up being May 18-26.

~Pastor Dave Van Kley will be serve as our interim Pastor following Michael’s retirement March 31.

~Richard will get a new set of “stamped” blue prints from the engineer for the indoor accessible ramp to the sanctuary.

~Local benevolences will continue on monthly basis to be available for any local emergency needs too; January-Room at the Inn, February-Habitat for Humanity, March-The Women’s Center

~Both the Financial Secretary’s and Treasurer’s February reports were reviewed, found in order with no outstanding bills.

~Next council meeting is Tuesday, April 16 at 5:30 p.m.



Thank you to all that contributed to the purchase of the lilies and fresh flowers, and brought flowers to adorn our sanctuary on Easter Day!

April 2024



Office Hours: Jolene~ Wed. & Fri. 10:30aAM-2:30PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1 AA Meeting 7 PM	2 Quilting 1PM	3	4	5 Private Funeral Service for Ruth Baldwin 1PM	6
7 Adult Forum 10AM Worship 11AM	8 AA Meeting 7PM	9 Quilting 1PM	10	11	12	13
14 Adult Forum 10AM Worship 11AM	15 AA Meeting 7PM	16 Quilting 1PM Council Mtg. 5:30 PM	17	18	19	20
21 Adult Forum 10AM Worship 11AM	22 AA Meeting 7PM	23 Quilting 1PM	24	25	26	27
28 Adult Forum 10AM Worship 11AM	29 AA Meeting 7PM	30 Quilting 1PM				

**The April 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 11 am