

Emanuel Lutheran Church
September 2024
Enlightener



Celebrating 130 Years of God's Faithfulness
August 25, 2024

Pastor David Van Kley, Interim Pastor
(906) 250-1720

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Emanuel Lutheran Church: 906-942-7245
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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 9 am
through October.



**2024 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
July – October 9AM , November-February 11AM**

Birthday Blessings

September 1-Robert Yearicks

September 4-Sue McCarthy

September 7-Todd Barr

September 10-Dan Bahrman

September 10-David Bahrman

September 12-Andrea Kass

September 12-Kim Oliver

September 20-Thomas Yearicks

September 23-Vincent St. John

*September 26-
Luke Kainulainen*

Anniversary Blessings

*September 13-
Sonny & Sherry Robinson*

*September 15-
Kathy & Kurt Tuttle*

*September 26-
Larry & Sue McCarthy*

*September 29-
Fred & Laurie Beauchamp*



*Thank you Carol Wolf for
sponsoring the September bulletins
honoring her family.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
09/01	Patti Bergdahl	Tom & Barb Bach
09/08	Sarah Kimball	Jesse & Leah Kainulainen
09/15	Jesse Kainulainen	Bahrman Family
09/22	Barb Bach	Richard Cooke
09/29	Betsy Koski	Roger & Sarah Kimball

Fresh Air

Walking outside the other day, I recalled a line from a song by the 60's rock group Jefferson Airplane: "Summer has inhaled and held it's breath too long." Those words lodged in my mind because they accurately describe this time of year. We all love summer in the UP, but we can see it beginning to fade. The bright green of spring and the deeper green of July isn't quite the same in late August. The ferns have yellow and brown spots. The showy wildflowers of spring and summer have given way to asters and goldenrod, and those invasive purple knapweed flowers taking over the roadsides. A few maples are turning bright red and orange, but mostly, the woods just look a little tired.

Alongside the changes in flora, there are also changes in the rhythms of life. The kids are back in school—and yellow buses are there to remind us, morning and night. Vacations have ended. The long days are growing shorter—it's darker when we get up in the morning and in the evening, dusk arrives earlier every day.

Summer has nearly run its course. We may wish we could hold onto summer for a while longer or even turn the clock back to May 30! But of course, we can't.

Fall is a season of transition. Not all that comes with the transition is bad! September and October will bring its brief, but glorious display of orange, yellow, and red. When the trees drop their leaves, we'll see further into the trees, more of the horizon. With the cooler weather, mosquitoes and flies disappear. Gardens and orchards offer their bounties. Many of us will enjoy football games and hunting season. Then: Thanksgiving and the Holidays.

Finally, the snow will come and with it, a different kind of beauty. We can wait awhile for that. As I overheard Gary Parkkonen say to Keith Polkinghorne the other night: "Don't put the plow on your truck yet!" It'll come soon enough. We are in the season of transition.

The Church is in a season of transition, too. It sometimes feels like we've inhaled and held our breath too long. There are fewer of us and we are older than we once were. We feel a little tired. We remember days when the pews were full for worship at Bethany. When kids flocked to Vacation Bible School at Emanuel. When the activity calendar was packed with events and classes and opportunities. It's not quite the same these days.

I recently preached at a church I once served. Back in the 1980's, we averaged between 300 and 400 people every Sunday. The week before I led worship, the total attendance was 65. It was pretty shocking to see that number in black and white!

What's going on? Has the gospel lost its appeal in this version of American life? If so, why? Is there something different we could have done? Sometimes we wish we could turn the clock back about fifty years. But of course, we can't.

Instead of wishing for the past, I would invite you to look to the future re-newed Church with joy and anticipation. It does no good to inhale and hold your breath too long! Rather, let the Spirit of God blow through us, filling our lungs with newness of life and vision, as at Pentecost.

We don't know exactly what that church may look like. It may be smaller. There may be fewer buildings. There may be more lay ministers and fewer ordained ministers. We don't know at this time, just what that church will look like. But we do know it will be God's church, the resurrected body of Jesus Christ, even as it is now. We know the gospel will be proclaimed and lived. God's grace and love will not—cannot—fail, now or ever.

So breathe deep, people of Emanuel and Bethany. Open your hearts and ears and eyes to change. Pray for the Spirit's guidance. Allow yourself to be an instrument of Christ's redeeming love in these days of transition.

Sincerely,

Pastor Dave Van Kley

Pastor Lloyd Luedeman Appointed Intentional Interim Pastor

At a recent joint meeting of the Bethany and Emanuel church councils, Bishop Katherine Finegan proposed the appointment of Pastor Lloyd Luedeman to serve as full time intentional interim pastor for both congregations for one year, effective October 1. After an extended conversation with Pastor Lloyd and his wife, Amy, the councils voted to accept this proposal. Later, Pastor Lloyd officially accepted the appointment as well.

Upon his arrival, Pastor Lloyd will help clarify his role as your pastoral leader for the next year. But for the moment, let me say that I could not be more excited by and pleased for Bethany and Emanuel. Pastor Lloyd will lead you through a process of deep reflection on your past and present ministry, helping you to chart a new vision for mission in the future. This represents a real opportunity for a joyful renewal in your life and ministry together here, in Skandia and Negaunee.

During the month of September, I will continue to serve as your part time administrative interim and help you prepare for the transition in October.

Sincerely and warmly,

Pastor Dave Van Kley

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.



Sept. Scriptures	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Sept. 1	Deut. 4:1-2, 6-9	Psalm 15	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15,21-23
Sept. 8	Isaiah 35:4-7a	Psalm 146	James 2:1-10 [11-13]	Mark 7:24-37
Sept. 15	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 116:1-9	James 3:1-12	Mark 8: 27-38
Sept. 22	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Psalm 54	James 3:13-4:3,7-8a	Mark 9:30-37
Sept. 29	Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3	Psalm 103: 1-5, 20-22	Rev. 12:7-12	Luke 10:17-20



We have received another beautiful quilt made and donated by Connie Arnett Ritter. The quilt depicts the state of Michigan, hand sewn and professionally quilted. Tickets are available now, with the drawing in November. Tickets are \$2 each with proceeds going towards the indoor accessibility ramp to Emanuel's sanctuary. We need everyone's help selling tickets to make raffle successful. You can call the office to purchase tickets also, (906)942-7245. Thank you for your support!

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

Saima Kainulainen and her mother Leah attended the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. Thousands of high school aged Lutherans from across the country and overseas as well attended. Saima created a poster board with several photos of her experience that is in the fellowship hall. Here is a summary of their times at the gathering!

My trip to New Orleans was wonderful. Every night we got to see a different concert. I loved dancing and singing along with everyone. On the first day, I got to go on a riverboat tour. They served catfish and it was actually really good. There was live jazz which I loved.

The next day we got to spend some hours in the convention center. There was a bunch of activities there like badminton, bouncy houses, and painting. I really liked it. There was even hammocks there where you could rest.

On the third day, we went back to the convention center and watched a documentary about the New Orleans marching band. They got to play for us after the documentary. Then we got to follow them in a parade and carry hurricane supply buckets. After that, we went to get lunch and got to see some gift shops. I bought a snow globe. I also got beignets and they tasted amazing.

On the last day we went to one of the concert things in the morning and everyone had communion there. A couple hours later, we went on a ghost tour. That was the last thing we did on the trip.

Overall, my trip to New Orleans was fantastic. I got to explore a new city, see incredible concerts, try delicious food, and participate in fun activities. Thank you so much for your help with the trip. It means a lot to me.

Sincerely, Saima

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Members,

Thank you so much for supporting our trip to the ELCA youth gathering in New Orleans. The experience was unforgettable and will always be treasured.

Each morning thousands of youth in colored t-shirts walked to the Ernest N. Morial Conference Center next to the Mississippi River. Inside was a giant "playground" for teens with everything from badminton, to bounce houses, to pickleball, to board games. The other half contained learning opportunities and faith and community-based activities.

Our group watched a documentary (The Whole Gritty City) about music and marching band opportunities for challenged communities (youth) in New Orleans. We learned how culturally important this was to the community and how a few dedicated people were able to start a program that continues to build youth up mentally and prepares them for adulthood. The band directors and one of the marching bands entered at the end and we marched behind them with buckets prepared for hurricane relief.

We also led a church service one morning and each evening we walked to the Smoothie King Center (where the Pelicans play) for the night program called the "Mass Gathering". Here we heard incredible speakers and bands; our group was down on the floor with the bands on 2 of the nights. The speakers were inspirational (I highly recommend looking up Jacqueline Bussie) to both youth and adults from all walks of life. The message of inclusivity throughout was outstanding and I was proud to be attending such a diverse program.

Also, the sense of community was very strong. Groups brought bracelets, crosses, and other trinkets to hand out to each other during our long walks through the city. After the Mass Gathering, fun chants and songs filled the city as thousands returned to their hotels.

Lastly, what a blessing youth leader Stacy McEachern from Negaunee is....(and the others leading our group). Stacy made smoothies and hosted a breakfast bar in her hotel room each morning and took on the overwhelming task of chaperoning teenagers in a large city, which she organized effortlessly. Snapchat was an essential tool for communication and to keep everyone togeth-

Thank you again for the opportunity. The next ELCA youth gathering is in 2027 in Minneapolis. I encourage all teenagers (and adults who would like to chaperone) to attend.

Warm Regards, Leah



Remember in Prayer ...

*Our members, family, and friends who are ill, have health concerns, are grieving, or are in need...
our members and friends who are absent from worship.*

*Paul Johnson, Bill, Mary Heath, Rosie Howard,
Sally Weingartner, Lois Kokko,
Sherry Jo Murphy, Nina Ingalls,
The Family of Vernon Haglund.*

*If you have a prayer request, for yourself or others, or
would like to be on the prayer team, please let the office
know by calling, by leaving a message at
906-942-7245, or by emailing the office at:
Emanuel@tds.net*

*Please let us know when our prayer list needs to be
updated with names added or removed. Thank you.*

September 2024

Office Hours: Friday (Varies)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1 Worship 9am	2 AA Meeting 7pm	3	4	5	6	7
8 Wor- ship 9am Adult Forum Following	9 AA Meeting 7pm	10	11	12	13	14
15 Wor- ship 9am Adult Forum Following	16 AA Meeting 7pm	17	18	19	20	21
22 Worship 9am	23 AA Meeting 7pm Fall Clean Up thru Sept. 29	24 Quilting 1-3pm Council Meeting 5:30	25	26	27	28
29 Wor- ship 9am Adult Forum Following	30 AA Meeting 7pm					

**The September 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 am