

Emanuel Lutheran Church
February 2025
Enlightener



Pastor Lloyd Leo Luedeman

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Emanuel Lutheran Church: 906-942-7245

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Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Congregational Leadership

Rev. Lloyd Leo Leudeman

**Cell: (906)202-5006
pastorlloydll@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 February.

***2025 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
February 11AM, March-June 9AM***

Birthdays Blessings

February 7—Carol Wolf

*February 9 -
Sally Weingartner*

February 10-Jacob Mackey

February 14-Betsy Koski

February 15-Jon Berglund

February 19-David Ridolphi

February 23-Sandi Ruotsi

February 25-Nina Ingalls

February 25-Cindy Shelton

February 28-Patti Bergdahl



Anniversary Blessings

*February 4-
Dan & Pam Bahrman*



*Thank you Betsy Koski for sponsoring the
February worship bulletins
in honor of her family.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Usher(s)</u>
02/02	Barb Bach	Bahrman Family
02/09	Sarah Kimball	Richard Cooke
02/16	Christie Johnson	Jesse & Leah Kainulainen
02/23	Betsy Koski	Roger & Sarah Kimball



With our winter season here, if inclement weather causes our Sunday Worship services to be cancelled we will have a message stating it at **906-942-7245 and on TV6**. We will also post it on our Facebook page. Please call if the roads and conditions are questionable before traveling. During the week, if schools are cancelled or conditions are questionable, the church office may be closed until conditions improve.

The Pastor's Piece for February 2025

*"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*

Matthew 16:19

For what it's worth...as we move forward together in this wintery time of transition-having had our annual congregational meeting at Emanuel/Skandia and anticipating our annual meeting at Bethany/Negaunee, while taking time to celebrate our loved ones on this coming Valentine's Day and anticipating a season of new hopes and dreams for our congregations ministries and community at large, I would like to share with you this poem for your personal reflection that I have found helpful and thought inspiring for myself. It was written by B. Carl Ship and it's titled "Our Church."

What kind of a church would our church be
If every member were just like me?
Am I so busy with earthly cares
That I have no time to spend in prayer?
Do I keep the Sabbath as diligently
As I do the duties for my family?
Are my tithes and offerings as honest and square
As my weekly budget for household affairs?
Does my worship and study find as much place
As TV and pleasure in this life's race?
What kind of church would our church be
If every member were just like me?
Does the weekly service find me there
Full of joy and peace in Jesus' care?
Do my children and others see in me
The likeness of Jesus, holy and free?
Does my soul's hunger for the lost,
Reflect the Master's, regardless of cost?
Does our mission program flourish and grow
With the efforts and seeds that I sow?

What kind of a church would our church be
 If every member were just like me?
 ...When this life's race has been run
 Could my Savior say of me, "Well done"?
 What kind of a church would our church be
 If every member were just like me?

So then, it is my prayer that this poem leaves us with good thoughts to ponder as we consider the direction that God is leading us in during these days of February's winter. May our prayers and our lives of faith lead us in response to God's grace to joyfully embrace participating in the ministry God has given all of us together to share in and to find meaning and encouragement in. Remember, we need the church, and the church needs us. I give God thanks for all of you! See you in church, Pastor Lloyd

February Scriptures	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Feb. 2	Malachi 3: 1-4	Psalm 84	Hebrews 2: 14-18	Luke 2: 22-40
Feb 9	Isaiah 6: 1-8[9-13]	Psalm 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5: 1-11
Feb. 16	Jeremiah 17: 5-10	Psalm 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6: 17-26
Feb. 23	Genesis 45: 3-11,15	Psalm 37: 1-11,39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-39, 42-50	Luke 6: 27-38

February 2025



When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again..."

~v. 4 of Now the Green Blade Rises,

ELW # 379

We live in a part of the world where winters can be very, very long. I moved to the Marquette area in March 2008 from Texas. On April 1, we had two feet of snow, and we lost power for several hours! Gisele and I knew we weren't in Amarillo anymore!

I like snow, but I'm impatient when April arrives, and we really can't declare the arrival of spring. I was introduced to the term "mud season". Will there ever be blooming flowers again? Will I ever be able to plant my tomatoes? We were warned about not planting too early here in Zone 4.

We can be concerned about that tree we transplanted in the fall. We can be concerned about those flower bulbs surviving a cold winter. We can be concerned about the young and vulnerable wildlife surviving a hard winter. We are tempted to lose hope when the cold dreariness of life lingers. We can be concerned about the state of our congregation or about violent conflicts in our world. The list of concerns goes on...

It is tempting to feel overwhelmed in the long wintry night of the soul. We can be tempted to feel as if there is no purpose in our actions. It is during such times that we do well to consider the promises of God. Jesus told a parable of the kingdom about a seed growing in secret.

“The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.” Mark 4:26-27

NRSV

Imagine that. Something is beyond my human control and full understanding! We as humans so much want to be in control and understand. We like to be our own boss, to set our own agendas, to be in control of our emotions, to chart the course, to apply ourselves to the goal and to methodically achieve that goal. Jesus never said that the chief end of human beings is to be in total control of their lives.

But even with that perspective of not being in control, we are not to be mere passive bystanders in the destinies of life either. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, “I planted, Apollos watered it, but God gave the growth.” (I Corinthians 3:6)

Our job in the Kingdom is not about guaranteeing results. The growth, the harvest, the end result, is God’s business. But neither do we just throw up our hands and say, “I have no role in this.” No, we are unavoidably in the business of scattering seed.

Yes, even in the dreariness of a long winter, the gardeners in us are making plans for spring. We may even have some starter plants growing in our homes during winter. Come spring, we will transplant them into our outdoor gardens.

Though our hearts are wintry and grieving, the touch of God can revive. The touch of God’s Spirit can remind us to keep on planting, planning, hoping, and sowing seeds in a world that doesn’t believe growth can possibly happen under two feet of snow!

~By Rev. Jim Duehring

From The Seed Sowers Devotions in the Northern Great Lakes Synod, online at www.nglsynod.org



We are collecting clothing items for the Gwinn Elementary School this winter; new or gently used sweat pants, underwear and socks for children that need dry clothes after outside winter play. Items can be placed in the shopping cart in the fellowship hall.

Talk with Sarah if you have any questions and thank you for helping with this community outreach project!



Quilting for Lutheran World Relief continues on Tuesdays, 1 p.m. All are welcome with no experience needed. We are always in need of gently used sheets that are used for the tops and bottoms of the quilts. We are also always in need of sewing thread for the edges that are machine sewn and heavier cotton thread for tying the tops. If you have any

questions please talk with Christie. Come and join us!



With the winter season our outdoor food pantry uses food items that will be safe even by freezing; pasta, dry cereal, dry soups, crackers, granola bars, etc. A new winter list of items is available for ideas of food items that can be stored outside in the colder temperatures. Paper products and health and beauty products are also always in need during any season! Thank you for your continued support of this valuable community resource.



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.



We continue to collect Econo Receipts for the ELCA World Hunger Fund. The collection box is near the window in the north end of the fellowship hall. Thank you Christie Johnson for organizing , totaling the amount, taking them to the Econo Grocery store in Marquette and following up with the final donation to

Emanuel.



The ***Souper Bowl of Caring*** began in 1990 with a simple prayer said by Reverend Brad Smith at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.” Each year Emanuel takes part in this annual event. **Sunday, February 9** bring a can of soup, or a dry mix for our winter supplies in the outdoor food pantry and cash donations will go towards the ELCA World Hunger Fund.

Please let Pastor Lloyd 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. Please contact Pastor Lloyd directly at (906)202-5006 Emanuel at (906)942-7245.

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes Highlights ~ Sunday, January 26

~Nineteen voting members present as Council Vice President Sarah Kimball called the meeting to order.

~Pastor Lloyd thanked the current Eucharistic Ministers for their help in taking Communion to our homebound members. Pastor invited others to become Eucharistic Ministers too. He thanked many members for the ongoing work they do at Emanuel. He noted the church has increased in the number of people joining us for Sunday worship services.

~ Emanuel continues to be a busy church throughout the year, as the reviews of the Christian Education, Worship and Music, Outreach, Stewardship, Youth Mission and Cemetery board Committee reports were shared.

~ The Audet Committee report is coming soon. Both the Financial Secretary and Treasurer reports were reviewed and accepted.

~Although our Accessibility Ramp to the Sanctuary project is on hold, we are waiting for an estimate for the cost of the ramp from a contractor Roger Kimball has met with recently.

~The 2025 Budget was reviewed line by line and adopted.

~Thank you to Sarah Kimball & Leah Kainulainen for remaining on the Council for another term when their current term expired in December of 2024. Sarah Kimball and Richard Cooke will be the two Synod Assembly Voting Delegates in May of 2025. Two Extra Synod Conference 8 Delegates are still needed. Nominating Committee is Barb Bach Ronda Barr, and Christie Johnson. Auditing Committee will likely remain the same. Fortune Lake Annual Meeting representatives are Sarah Kimball and Jane Sims.



Thank you all for attending the Annual Meeting and for the potluck enjoyed beforehand!

February 2025

Pastor Lloyd: Tues. & Thurs. 10am-2pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship	3 AA Meeting 7 pm	4 Quilting 1 pm	5	6	7	8
9 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship	10 AA Meeting 7 pm	11 Quilting 1 pm	12	13	14	15
16 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship	17 AA Meeting 7 pm	18 Quilting 1 pm Council Meeting 5:30 pm	19	20	21	22
23 10am Adult Forum 11am Worship	24 AA Meeting 7 pm	25 Quilting 1 pm	26	27	28	

**The February 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