

Emanuel Lutheran Church
March 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
Roger Kimball ~
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.

***2025 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
March-June 9AM. July-October 11AM***

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 Tom & Barb Bach for sponsoring the
March worship bulletins in honor of family.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

Date

Lector

Usher(s)

03/02

Patti Bergdahl

Barb & Tom Bach

03/09

Barb Bach

Jesse & Leah Kainulainen

03/16

Jesse Kainulainen

Bahrman Family

03/23

Barb Bach

Richard Cooke

03/30

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 March 2025

“He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, ‘Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’ Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’”

I was thinking on my drive in to church from Au Train this Wednesday morning that the month of March is kind of like a Wednesday. We often refer to Wednesday as “hump day” because after we make it through Wednesday, well, the rest of the week seems more manageable and the coming weekend is in sight with all of its hopes and promise. March is like that for me. As we enter March, we have made it through January and February and now, once we get through March, spring seems to be in sight, and with the longer days blossoming before us, everything seems to be much brighter and full of promise. Perhaps that was the way it was for the disciples. They had just celebrated Palm Sunday, at the beginning of what we now refer to as “Passion or Holy week,” and they were full of hope and promise as they accompanied Jesus throughout Jerusalem. Now, in the above verses from Luke’s Gospel, the disciples and Jesus have just gotten over “hump day” and the coming events of Jesus’ arrest and trial are right before them. But, unknown to the sleepy disciples, the rest of Thursday, Friday and the coming weekend would quickly materialize into something they all never thought they would see. Thinking of how the disciples approached those final hours with Jesus, I am reminded of a story about a man who could not climb out of a well even though he was standing just a few inches below the end of a rope. Ordinarily, this might sound extraordinary.

However, it ceases to be so when we realize that this was a man who never looked up even on the good days when the sky was blue and the sun was shining and the birds were singing. Whether out of habit or insecurity or maybe just his temperament, he never looked up. So, we have to wonder what good his consistent focus on the ground did him when he fell into the well anyway. And after his fall he screamed himself nearly hoarse for help, but still, he didn't look up. When a child finally did hear him and looked down into the well, he finally did look up. That is when he saw the rope. Perhaps the disciples who slept while their Lord suffered in prayer were unwilling to look up as well. For whatever the reason, it seems that their focus was very close to the ground-that they were incapable of expecting or imagining anything they had not expected or imagined before. But that would soon change in the coming hours, days, months, and years! However, in those moments in the garden, the power of life and death was not held by a traveling Rabbi from the north country named Jesus, but instead it was held by Rome and those who were willing to serve the Roman authorities. Perhaps for those early disciples standing by in the garden, their struggle was with motivation? Perhaps they thought that the problem with Jesus and his way of self-sacrifice is that he did not seem to gain anything by doing what he did. Even for the most dedicated disciple, self-sacrifice was all right every once in a while, but with Jesus it was a steady theme. Not only did it confuse the disciples, it probably left them feeling that to follow him would be impossible. That was until they realized that what Jesus wanted, they needed-the teaching, the living, the healing, the praying and the bleeding and dying were all part of his mission on earth. And ultimately, by means of Jesus' resurrection, God ended death's power over humanity and our times of trial. So, this March, as we gather together for Lenten services, I am reminded that we know where the power of life comes from and we can see clearly that it comes from a source that is not like armies or political power, which, while they may seem awesome, can be destroyed or dissolved in a day. Not only is our Lord's power a power that will never be destroyed or dissolved, it is a power which lifts our heads up out of our self-imposed weariness and gloom and gives us the joy to expect what we could not have otherwise imagined...our belonging to God forever. So, let's keep our eyes and attitude upward as we wait for spring to come! I am looking forward to being with you all in church this March as we prepare ourselves for the events of Holy week in this time and place. See you in church! +LLL



We invite you to participate in this year's Lenten Challenge from the Christ's Kaleidoscope Group this Lent from Ash Wednesday, March 5 through Monday, April 14. This year we will use two resources to see us through this challenge. First is a book, "Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power" by Kathy Escobar and a devotional from the ELCA, "Dismantle: An Anti-White Supremacy Lenten Devotional."

These resources help us confront the power structures that perpetuate injustice in our world, our communities, and ourselves. You will also need to purchase the book by Kathy Escobar from anywhere you buy books. As this is short notice, we will provide you with the first two weeks of the book digitally as you wait for your book to arrive.

We will form two cohorts to facilitate our discussion together. A Sunday group that will meet at 7pm East, 6 pm Central, and a Monday group from 1:30pm East, 12:30 Central. This is a great opportunity to join with others around Synod to do the hard work of dismantling systems of racial injustice that are prevalent in our world. With the uncertainty of these last few months, this work is essential to ensure those in marginalized communities find allies to help, support, and love them in their journey. For more information see the Northern Great Lakes Synod website: www.nglsynod.org

Digital Monthly Newsletter

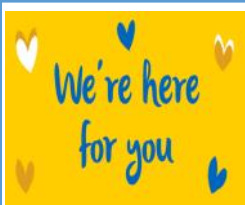
Would you like to receive the Enlightener via email instead of the mail?

Please send an email to the office: emanuel@tds.net

and request your Enlightener to be emailed. If you would like the weekly ***Celebrates*** with the readings and prayers either mailed or emailed also, let

the office know at 906-942-7245 or email us an message.

March Scriptures	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
March 2	Exodus 34: 29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]
March 9	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10: 8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
March 16	Genesis 15: 1-12,17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3: 17-4:1	Luke 13: 31-35
March 23	Isaiah 55: 1-9	Psalm 63: 1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13: 1-9
March 30	Joshua 5: 9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5: 16-21	Luke 15: 1-3,11b-32



Please let Pastor Lloyd or the church office know if you or a family member is hospitalized, ill, home-bound 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.



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.



Emanuel is participating in the **Annual Diaper Drive** for the Care Clinic. Through March 17 we are taking donations of both diapers and baby wipes in the shopping cart located in the fellowship hall.

Monetary prizes are being given to both 'smaller' and 'larger' churches for the most donated. **Thank you**

for supporting 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!



Thank you all for donating cans of soup and monetary donations during our Souper Bowl of Caring in February. Since our winter weather prohibits canned items outside in our micro food pantry, we invite those in need to come inside to pick up those items kept on the book shelf in the fellowship hall. Donations are welcome for both outside and inside items. Thank you for supporting this community outreach resource.



Wednesday, March 5

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 26

Community Covenant Church

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, April 9

Hope Methodist Church

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Sally Weingartner is now residing at the Eastwood Nursing Center in Negaunee for rehab. Please keep her and Dale in your prayers for healing and strength during this time. "Thinking of You" cards are greatly appreciated:

Sally Weingartner
C/O Eastwood Nursing Center
900 Mass Street
Room 126
Negaunee, MI 49866



February Council Meeting Highlights

~ Continued prayers for Sally Weingartner now at Eastwood Nursing Center in Negaunee, cards also appreciated.

~Thank you letter from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp for Emanuel's giving throughout 2024.

~"Question Board" posted in the fellowship hall for congregation member's comments, currently "The Strengths of our Congregation are..."

~Emanuel's Mid Week Lenten Services are: Ash Wednesday, March 5, 7 pm, Wednesday, March 12, worship followed by soup supper at 6 pm, Wed., March 26 at Community Covenant Church and Wed., April 9 at Hope Methodist Church. Offerings at Emanuel during midweek services will go to the Gwinn St. Vincent DePaul.

~**Plants, Pies & Summer Buys** will be held on Saturday, June 7 at Emanuel.

~Emanuel will participate in a Diaper Drive for the Care Clinic.

~ March Local Benevolence: Area 36 Special Olympics

~Both the Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were reviewed and accepted without any outstanding bills.

~Next council meeting is Tuesday, March 18 at 5:30 pm.

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.*

Adam, Tony and Trevor, Carol Wolf, Paul Johnson, Bill, Jeff, Mary Heath, Sally Weingartner, Lois Kokko, Valerie, Sonny Robinson, Richard Erickson, Molly, Richard.



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

March 2025

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
						1
2 9am Worship Adult Forum 10:30 am	3 AA Meeting 7pm	4 Quilting 1 pm	 5 Ash wednes- day Worship 7pm	6	7	8
9 9am Worship Adult Forum 10:30 am	10 AA Meeting 7pm	11 Quilting 1 pm	12 Emanuel 6pm 	13	14	15
 16 9am Worship Adult Forum 10:30 am	17 AA Meeting 7pm	18 Quilting 1 pm Council Mtg. 5:30 pm	19	20	21	22
23 9am Worship Adult Forum 10:30 am	24 AA Meeting 7pm	25 Quilting 1 pm	26 Com- munity Covenant Church 6pm 	27	28	29
30 9am Worship Adult Forum 10:30 am	31 AA Meeting 7pm					

**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 am