

NEWSLETTER

THE PRESENCE



2026

Our Mission Statement

"We teach, proclaim and live Christ in all things."

Where two or three come together in my name there am I with them. Matthew 18:20

Immanuel Lutheran Church – 351 Wilson Street – Alpena, Michigan 49707 – Ph: 989-354-3443
Website: immanuelalpena.org

October 2026

Dear Members & Friends of Immanuel:

The Pew Research Center came out with a survey recently on the faith of today's teenagers. While a few glimmers of hope surface through the pages of data, one message comes through loud and clear – America's teenagers are "losing their religion."

Potential reasons for this? I'll mention three. First, teens are growing up in a society increasingly hostile to faith-based values. The social cost of being identified as "religious" amongst one's peers gets higher with each passing day. The Barna Research Group discovered Christian teens are reluctant to use the words "evangelism" and "convert" because they fear being branded as "intolerant" of other beliefs.

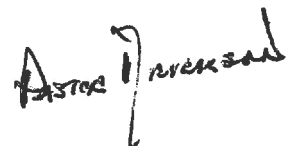
Second, many churches focus on the older end of their spectrum of ministry, leaving the young to fend for themselves. When there's no support system or sense of community amongst one's peers, children, teenagers, and young adults tend to drift elsewhere, away from the church. Many never return. The result? Aging congregations and disenfranchised youth. Not a great scenario for the long-term health of the church.

Finally, this could be another sign of how the continued deterioration of the family and rampant secularization impacts the church, just as it affects the greater society. One of the main reasons children remain in the faith is because they are in intact homes with two believing parents. Faith and values are certainly "caught, not taught." If mom and dad are not going to church or there is no mom or dad to model the Christian faith to them, there's nothing for teenagers to "catch" unless they encounter some Gospel influence outside the home. Teens coming from families that remain together and take their faith seriously throughout the week, rather than merely seeing it as a Sunday morning exercise to check off the weekly to-do list, are most likely to follow their parents' example. They attest that faith in Jesus provides them with a deep sense of spiritual peace and purpose for living.

For us Bible-believing, faithful Lutherans, it is essential for us to ensure our children are raised in homes that live and teach Biblical truth. Again, values are more caught than taught. How we need to model God's justice and mercy, personal sacrifice that illustrates selflessness instead of selfishness, and an unwavering commitment to following Jesus as His disciple. As we commemorate the Reformation at the end of this month, the Christian church in America needs to get back to strong Biblical preaching and teaching ... faithfully standing on faith alone, in Christ alone, through Scripture alone, by grace alone. Such a renewal and reformation can enable teenagers to see the church as a community for them, not simply a community for their parents and grandparents.

1. How shall the young secure their hearts, And guard their lives from sin?
Thy Word the choicest rules imparts, To keep the conscience clean.
2. Thy Word is everlasting truth, How pure is every page!
That holy book shall guide our youth, And well support our age.

■ Isaac Watts (1674-1748)





OCTOBER

Birthdays

October 1

Bobbi Cornell

October 2

HannaLee Torz

Jennifer Torz

Bonnie Urlaub

October 3

Jeannie Burt

Jerry Plohocky

October 4

Mable Avery

Lisa Green

Cary Modrzyński

Amy Schultz

October 5

Kerri McCrimmon

October 6

Alayna Gosselin

Samuel Hansen

Hannah Rokes

Marty Sommerfeld

October 7

Brent Birmingham

Aaron Dickinson

Ned Heath

October 8

Jerry Neumann

Zachary Phillips

October 9

Thelma McDonald

Nancy Srebnik

October 10

Nora Boboltz

Beth Larsen

Vera Rajala

October 11

Alex Damon

Claire Beaubien

Ella Beaubien

Annabelle Krueger

Marissa Powell

Judy Smith

Ella Straley

October 12

Lewis Scheller

October 13

No Birthdays

October 14

Talitha Larsen

October 15

Charlotte Lee

Thomas Tuuri

Paul Weismantel

October 16

No Birthdays

October 17

Judy Stump

Pamela Werth

October 18

Jill Bauer

Pat Plohocky

Logan Whaley

October 19

Robert Fairchild

Carson Heath

October 20

Donald Kieliszewski

October 21

Aubrey Dahn

Vicki Kottong

Rob Lewandowski

Anita Tanner

October 22

Lauren Gohl

October 23

Alison Kaiser

Kaye Kapala

Thomas Male

October 24

Margaret Larsen

Terra Kendzierski

Jacob Kendzierski

October 25

Ellie Badgero

David Dickins

Leslie Hempel

James Weide

October 26

Conner Hardies

October 27

Cole Cosbitt

Collin McCrimmon

Blaise Prevost

October 28

Maggie Anderson

Tom Ball

Lyndsey Glennie

Wendy McDonald

Beverly Neumann

Matthew Sommerfeld

Brian Torsch

October 29

Dolores Baker

Ethel Janeski

Dennis Liske

Andrew MacNeill

Charles White

October 30

Lori Bonifas

Aiden Kendzierski

Faith Meyers

Donald Stosick

Theresa Zeeman

October 31

Joseph Batory

Vinetta Frary



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

CHURCH CONTACTS

Phone: 989-354-3443

Fax: 989-354-0122

Secretary – Janel Muszynski Ext. 10

Asst. Secretary - Kristin Davis Ext. 11

Email: office@immanuelalpena.org

Vacancy Pastor

Rev. James D. Erickson

Phone ext. 16

Email: ericksonj@immanuelalpena.org

Deacon:

James T. Wolf

Email: wolfj@immanuelalpena.org

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Phone: 989-354-4805

Fax: 989-358-1102

Principal: Rev. Joshua Schultz Ext. 23

Email: schultzjm@immanuelalpena.org

Administrative Assistant –

Kelsey MacNeill Ext. 13

Email: school@immanuelalpena.org

Congregation President: Jim Grulke

Congregation V President:

Congregation Secretary: Janice VanWagoner

Congregation Treasurer: Michelle Hoes

Worship Services

Saturday at 6:30 pm

Sunday at 8:00am & 10:30am

(live on Facebook at 10:30am)

WBKB-TV 7:30am Ch: 12

10:00am Ch: 10



September

Sheri Prena 9/14/26

Gary Smith 9/18/26

Office News

Bulletin submission deadline

3:00pm Tuesday

Newsletter submission deadline

The 15th of each month.

ANNIVERSARIES-CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OR MORE



Thomas and Beverly Karsten 49 Years October 1st

Wayne and Jill Kowalski 42 Years October 6th

Kyle and Donna Kowalewsky 33 Years October 6th

Gerald and Kaye Kapala 42 Years October 13th

Wayne and Nyla Huggler 61 Years October 16th

Michael and Susan Schultz 46 Years October 18th

Frank And Marlene Long 42 Years October 20th

Eric and Patti Klomp 36 Years October 20th

Paul and Terry Franquez 36 Years October 27th

Hugh and Sharon Jack 36 Years October 27th

Rev. James and Lisa Erickson 39 Years October 29th



We're Looking For Help

- Youth Group is looking for wreath bow maker. If you are crafty and can make bows for wreaths we need your assistance. For more information contact Lauren Larson (989)255-7949
- Sunday School is looking for volunteers to join our team. It doesn't have to be a weekly commitment. Crafts, storytelling or music. For more information contact Janet Schaedig at (989) 354-3677.
- **Time sensitive-** School Accreditation committee looking for volunteers to evaluate the school. Contact school 989-354-4805

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Please update your calendars with the following meeting changes:

Parish Board Meeting

October 6 → **October 13 @ 6pm**

Parish Planning Council Meeting

October 13 → **October 20 @ 6pm**

Added to the schedule

Voter's meeting October 6th

Thank you for marking these new dates on your calendar!

Change in the date of the Board Meetings and Council Meeting for October

Due to the scheduling of the Special Voters Meeting/Call Meeting on Tuesday October 6, the Board Meetings for October will be changed to Tuesday October 13 at 6pm, and the Council Meeting for October will be changed to Tuesday October 20 at 6pm.

MONDAY:

- ❖ 7-8am Early Bird Bible Study- Adult ed
- ❖ 9:30am Social Ministry Meeting (2nd Monday)
- ❖ 5-6pm Grief Share in Library (Sept- June)
- ❖ 6-7:10pm Adult Inquirer's Class in Adult Ed.
- ❖ 6pm Women's Bible Study in Youth Room (Check Google calendar for changes)
- ❖ 5pm LWML Priscillas: Feb, March, April, Oct, Nov. (2nd Monday)
- ❖ 5pm Sunday School training (last Mon. of mth)
- ❖ 5pm LWML Evening Board Mtg: Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, April (2nd Monday) (No meetings June, July) Library
- ❖ 6pm LWML Evening meetings: Sept, Nov, January, March, May (2nd Monday) Fellowship

TUESDAY:

- ❖ 8:30am Quilters Guild
- ❖ 5:30pm Finance Mtg. (1st Tuesday)
- ❖ 6pm Parish Boards Meetings (1st Tuesday of the Month) (No July)
- ❖ 6pm Parish Planning Council (2nd Tuesday of the Month) (No July)
- ❖ 6pm Voters' Meetings (June 23rd, Sept. 22nd, Dec 1st)

WEDNESDAY:

- ❖ 8:15am ILS Chapel in Sanctuary
- ❖ 11:30am Recording "Midweek Meditation"
- ❖ 6pm Youth Group 7-12th graders welcome
- ❖ 6pm Confirmation class for 6th grade
- ❖ 7pm Confirmation class for 7th-8th grade

THURSDAY:

- ❖ 8:30am Quilters
- ❖ 11am Prayer Circle – Library
- ❖ 2pm Bible Study (Sept-June)
- ❖ 5:15pm Youth board meeting (1st Thur. of mth)
- ❖ 5:30pm Alternative Adult inquirers class
- ❖ 6pm Adult Choir – Sanctuary (Sept-May)
- ❖ 6:30-7pm Close the Back Door in Adult Ed.
- ❖ 7pm Al-Anon in Adult Ed.

SATURDAY:

- ❖ 6:30pm Church service

SUNDAY:

- ❖ 8am Church service
- ❖ 9:15am Sunday School
- ❖ 9:15am Adult Bible Study
- ❖ 9:15am 7th-12th grade Bible Study
- ❖ 10:30am Church Service
- ❖ 11:30am Bell Choir Practice (Sept-May)

See weekly bulletin/Google calendar or inquire at church office for details

CHURCH SERVICES

October 4

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

October 11

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-13

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

October 18

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

Epistle: Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 25:15-22

October 25

First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Epistle: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel: John 8:31-36



See weekly bulletin

Or inquire at church office for details (dates subject to change)

October 1- Youth Group Board Meeting

October 2 – Just for widows' lunch -Sand Bar & Grill

October 3 - Bake Sale before/after service

October 4 – LWML Annual Sunday

October 4 – Bake Sale before/after all services

October 6 – Finance Committee meeting

October 6 – **Voter's meeting**

October 9 – Youth group Hayride-Shubert Hwy

October 10 – Lutheran World Relief load U-Haul

October 10 – Sonshine Zone Fall Rally-St. Johns Hillman

October 11 – Fellowship Private Rental

October 12 – Social Ministry meeting

October 13 – LWML Priscilla meeting- (Social Ministry)

October 13 – **Parish Board meeting**

October 20 – **Parish Planning Council meeting**

October 24 – ILS Fall Fun Run/Walk

October 25 – Reformation Sunday -Potluck

October 26 – Sunday School Teacher training

October 29 – ILS Preschool fall party

October 30 – Paint Pumpkins/Movie/Potluck

November 3 – Finance meeting

November 3 – Circuit Pastor Conference

November 3 – Parish Board meeting

November 8 – School Exp. Update-Potluck (watch for details)

November 9 – Social Ministry meeting

November 10 – Parish Planning Council meeting

November 12 – ILS Preschool Harvest Dinner

November 15 – Fall Centerpiece Class (watch for details)

November 26 – **Thanksgiving Day**

December 5 – Christmas cookie decorating (watch for details)

December 11 – ILS family movie/pizza

February – Deadline for Accreditation

February 9 – Donuts with Dad

May 11 – Muffins with Mom

BIBLE CLASS

Sunday 9:15am Adult Bible Class

“Boundless Compassion: The book of Jonah”

October 4... J. Erickson – **4:1-11**

“Jonah’s Displeasure & God’s Response”

“The Words & Visions of the Prophet Amos”

October 11... J. Schultz – **1:1-15**

“The Words of Judgement upon the Nations (pt.1)”

October 18... J. Wolf – **2:1-16**

“The Words of Judgement upon the Nations (pt.2)”

October 25... J. Erickson – **3:1-15**

“Words of Punishment of Israel’s Sins”



Thank you for your generous donations this past month. After the updates about our diminishing funds, we received a great response. We are so humbled by the generosity of this congregation. In August we were able to help an individual with car repairs so they could continue working (this money was added to that given by a local charity) and another individual was able to keep their power from being shut off with Immanuel's support. An individual was given a gas card so they could pick up their son from a medical facility downstate, and we had one family use the pantry. As always, we are looking for members to add to our ministry. Contact Dawn McDonald at (989) 354-8541 if you are interested in hearing more about our committee or would like to volunteer your time to assist in making these efforts happen.



Prayer Circle
Every Thursday morning
11:00 am in the Church
Library

We start with scripture followed by 30 minutes of prayer. Bring any prayer concerns that you have or just come and pray with us. We would love to pray for you or someone you care for. Please feel free to fill out a prayer request card and place it in the container marked **"Prayer Requests" located in our Parish Welcome Center.**

Special Voters Meeting/Call Meeting

A Special Voters Meeting/Call Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6 at 6pm. Two candidates from our most recent Call List will be presented to Voters to be considered for a possible call for our next Senior Pastor. Information on the pastoral candidates is on the table in the narthex and is available in the church office. Please pray for God's continued guidance for everyone involved in this call process.



A Mercy & Care

Is a Ministry that has been formed within our family church dedicated to offering compassionate care and support for members of our congregation.

Our ministry seeks to provide Christ's love with compassionate care through meaningful acts of kindness.

If you or someone you know from our congregation could utilize these services, whether it's helping with small chores, transportation needs, meals, or simply a visit from one of our volunteers, please reach out to Karen Nowicki-Compeau (989) 657-4149 or Anne Lewandowski (989) 590-7174 to utilize our services.

"Therefore, be merciful, just as your father also is merciful." Luke 6:36



On **October 2, 2026** (FRIDAY), we will have lunch at the **Sand Bar and Grill** on Long Lake Road at **NOON-12 PM**. Come

for a Devotion and Christian socializing with other widows.

Reservations are necessary and may be made by contacting either Carol Boyd at 989-354-3758 or Janet Winfield at 989-354-4486. If you wish to carpool, we will meet in the church parking lot at 11:30 AM. Perhaps we will also see some fall colors on trees!

Women's Bible Study... Ladies, you are warmly invited to join us for Women's Bible Study every Monday at 6:00 PM in the Youth Room. Come enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and time together in God's Word. All women are welcome!



YOU HAVE GIFTS — IMMANUEL NEEDS YOU!

Immanuel Lutheran needs volunteers to serve as **church officers, board members, and school accreditation committee members** as soon as possible.

Open opportunities include:

**Vice President • Evangelism • Family Life •
Personnel • Lay Ministry • Public Relations •
Youth Group • Social Ministry**
Officers meet twice a month.

Boards meet once a month.

**Accreditation committees will meet as needed
during the self-study process.**

We are also forming committees for the **school accreditation process**, and we need parents, congregation members, and school supporters to help with this important work. (time sensitive)

Whether you enjoy working with people, planning activities, supporting our school, serving behind the scenes, or helping guide the Ministry of Immanuel, **your time and talents are needed and can make a real difference.**

Please stop by the church office as soon as possible to review position descriptions, ask questions, and find a place where you can serve God and strengthen Immanuel's ministry.



Sunday School News

Please take a moment to come by and see our prayer bulletin board. It is located across from the youth room. Feel free to write your prayer, encouragement, or blessing on a leaf

or sticky note and place it on our Prayer Tree! Every prayer makes a difference. Let's show our appreciation and support for our teachers, and support staff at the beginning of this school year! There are always room for more prayers for our Call Committee, our Church boards, and so much more.

We would like to thank **Pat Glomski** for volunteering for the CEF Stamp program. We are so grateful she is willing to ensure this program continues.



Name Tags Are Ready!

The Evangelism Committee is happy to announce that the new **name tags and lanyards are ready for pickup.**

If you signed up for a name tag, please pick yours up in the **Fellowship Room.**

If you did not sign up but would still like a **name tag/lanyard**, there is still time! Please sign up on the sheet located in the **Narthex** and print your name exactly as you would like it to appear.

We encourage everyone to wear their name tag as a simple and friendly way to help us get to know one another better.

Questions? Please contact **Sharon Jack at 989-255-8413.**

Before the snow flies!

HELP A YARD SIGN FIND HOME!

Our school yard signs are still waiting in the **narthex**, and they would love to find a yard before the snow arrives!

The signs are **free with a donation** to the **School Expansion Fund**. Donations may be placed in an envelope labeled "**Yard Sign**" and put in the basket on the church office counter.

Please consider taking one home and helping us share support for Immanuel Lutheran School throughout our community.

Available only while supplies last, so pick yours up soon!

Thank you for supporting our school!



Have you lost a loved one? Grief Share is a Christ-centered support group designed to help you on your journey from mourning to joy. This group is a safe and welcoming space where you can share, listen, and find comfort. We meet every Monday at 5 p.m. in the Church Library. All are welcome, and you can join at any time. Any questions, please contact Carol Boyd 989-354-3758.

**Immanuel Lutheran School
School Accreditation Program**

Our school is preparing to participate in the NLSA School Accreditation program. The process involves a self-study that demonstrates that its Lutheran mission governs how it is led, staffed, taught, supported, maintained, and finance.

The eight standards which will be evaluated are: Purpose, Relationships, Leadership, Professional Personnel, Teaching & Learning, Students Services, Facilities, and Finance. Each standard requires a committee to evaluate and respond to accreditation questions with written evidence. Both Immanuel faculty and board of Christian Day School members will serve on the committees, but church and school family members are welcome and needed to participate as well.

Please prayerfully consider becoming part of this program to improve our school. If you are interested in serving in this way, call the school office at 989-354-4805 to request that your name be added to the committee of your choice. We need you!



**Lutheran Women in Mission
Sonshine Zone Fall Rally**

All women are invited to the **Sonshine Zone Fall Rally** on **Saturday, October 10** at **St. John Lutheran Church in Hillman.**

Registration & Coffee: 10:00 AM

Opening Devotion: 10:30 AM

Speaker: Pastor Dave Reed

Cost: \$7.00 per person

Lunch and a business meeting will follow.

Ingathering: Monetary donations will be collected to help with shipping costs. The average cost to ship a box of goods is \$13, and the average cost to sponsor a full shipping container overseas is \$18,600.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."
Matthew 25:40



**Reformation Sunday
Potluck**

Please join us on **Sunday, October 25**, as we celebrate **Reformation Sunday**. Following worship, we will gather for a **potluck at noon**.

Reformation Sunday is a **special church holiday that celebrates the start of the Protestant Reformation**. It is a day to remember Martin Luther and the renewed focus on God's Word, grace, faith, and Christ alone.

If you would like to bring a dish to pass, please sign up on the sheet in the **Narthex**.

If you are willing to help with set up or clean up, please contact **Lori Kipfmiller at 989-884-4717**.

OCTOBER



SAVE THE DATE

*** YOUTH GROUP ***

HAYRIDE & BONFIRE

OCTOBER 9 • 6-9 PM

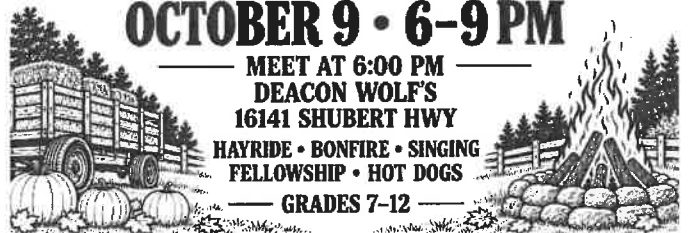
MEET AT 6:00 PM

DEACON WOLF'S

16141 SHUBERT HWY

**HAYRIDE • BONFIRE • SINGING
FELLOWSHIP • HOT DOGS**

GRADES 7-12



TEENS—LET'S GROW TOGETHER!

Calling all Immanuel Jr. High and High School students in 7th–12th grade!

Join us for a new Sunday morning Bible study where you can ask questions, connect with other teens, and grow deeper in your faith.

**Every Sunday
9:15–10:15 AM
Church Library**

Led by **Matt Stevens and Doris Puls**. Bring a friend and come check it out!



Looking for Home!

Our lost and found box is getting full! Books, toys, glasses, glasses, cases, and other items are waiting to be reunited with their owners. Please peek—you may find something you've been missing! (located at bottom of the mailboxes)

Sunday Fellowship Refreshments



Join us for snacks, coffee, and juice after the 8:00 a.m. service, before the 9:15 a.m. Bible studies, or before the 10:30 a.m. service. Refreshments will remain available until after the 10:30 service ends.

The Fellowship Board welcomes donations of homemade or store-bought baked goods. If you would like to contribute, please leave them in the church kitchen with a note marked **"For fellowship hour on Sunday."** Thank you for helping make fellowship time special!

Immanuel Lutheran School Apparel Is Now Available!

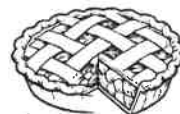
Show your school spirit and support Immanuel Lutheran School! Shop online <https://omegashop-109480.square.site/immanuel-lutheran-school-fundraiser>

or contact Omega directly (989) 358-8243. You can also visit Omega at **1109 Crittenden Ct., Alpena.**

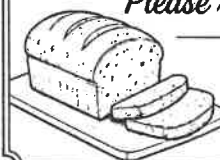
LWML BAKE SALE

October 3 & 4

Before and after each service



Please remember to bake!



Your support helps pay for members to attend conferences and helps cover related expenses.

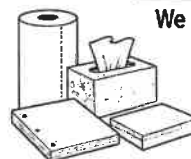


LWML PRISCILLA MEETING

**Tuesday, October 13 at 1:00 PM
Adult Room**

We are collecting for Social Ministry:

- Monetary donations
- Paper supplies
- Laundry detergent
- Peanut butter



Checks may be made payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church.
Memo: Social Ministry.
Supplies may be left in the Adult Ed Room starting October 10.



Thank you to everyone who brought luncheon dishes! We appreciate your generosity and help. If you haven't picked up your dish yet, it is in the hallway next to the kitchen. Thank you for your help!



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

The Stewardship board will again be hosting the 2026 LWR Ingathering on Saturday,

October 10th, 9:00 - 12:00 noon, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Area churches will be delivering boxes of quilts, baby kits, school kits, and personal care kits. The boxes will be loaded on a 26' U-Haul truck, and delivered to Valley Lutheran High School in Saginaw, MI. on Monday. **We are looking for volunteers to help on Saturday with the loading of boxes.** Your help would be much appreciated.



Taking a Little Candy Break!

With Halloween falling on a Saturday, we'll be taking a break from **Trunk or Treat** this year. We'll miss your creative costumes and sweet smiles! Have a safe and happy Halloween—we hope to see you next year! Board of Family Life

Aspen Ridge:

1261 Village Parkway, Apt 138

Gaylord, MI 49735

Pat Harrison Birthday 1/02

Besser Senior Living:

325 Johnson Street Alpena, MI 49707

Nancy Green, Rm #25 Birthday 4/09

**Patricia Plohocky, Rm #35 B-day
10/18**

Dorothy Rosso, Rm #5

Touch of Country AFC:

486 S. Oliver Street. Alpena, MI 49707

Medilodge- Greenview:

1234 Golf Course Rd Alpena, MI 49707

Medilodge-Long Rapids:

301 Long Rapids Rd. Alpena, MI 49707

Ken Adair Birthday 5/12

Bea Rohde Birthday 6/25

Earlene Krist Birthday 9/2

Medilodge- Rogers City:

555 N Bradley Hwy, Rogers City, MI
49779

Turning Brook:

400 Oxbow Dr.

Alpena, MI 49707

Pauline Urlaub 9/15

Turning Brook:

300 Oxbow Dr.

Alpena, MI 49707

Turning Brook:

100 Village Dr.

Alpena, MI 49707

Orchard Manor

5555 E. Metz Hwy.

Posen Mi. 49776

Mable Avery 10/4

Samaritas

210 Wilson St

Alpena MI 49707

Dorothy Jury Birthday 8/13

REACHING OUT

Reach out, not only to our seniors listed below, but to the needs, hurts and cares of family, friends, and loved ones near and far. We can comfort them with the comfort we have received from Jesus. We reach out with God's love assuring them of His care and support. May love guide you and allow the Holy Spirit to refresh you!

AT HOME RESIDENTS

Rosina Phillips, 120 Russell Ct. Alpena Birthday 1/17

LuAnne Benac, 2144 S. 1st Alpena Birthday 1/27

Dorothy Smith, 6041 Evergreen. Posen 49776 Birthday 4/1

Alfred Schultz, 4622 Werth Rd. Alpena Birthday 5/6

Dave Meyer, 3516 Ridge Rd. Zanesville Ohio 43701 Birthday 5/19

Beverly Jaeger, 171 N. Jefferson. Alpena Birthday 6/22

Millie Canavan, 1006 Ford. Alpena Birthday 6/26

Sharon Grulke, 10105 Miller Lane Posen, MI 49776 7/5

Gary Grulke, 10105 Miller Lane. Posen 49776 Birthday 7/8

Robert Nelson, 1115 S. 4th Ave. Alpena Birthday 7/18

Emory Newton, 2490 Werth Rd. Alpena Birthday 7/19

James Phillips, 120 Russell Ct. Alpena Birthday 7/20

Roberta Hyder, 9210 Farrier Rd. Hillman 49746 Birthday 8/3

Loretta Larsen, 357 Oliver Unit D. Alpena Birthday 8/7

Cindy Habermehl, 12880 Atkinson Rd Lachine 49753 8/10

Thelma Skuse, 2066 Naylor Rd. Alpena Birthday 9/2

Laura King, 7825 Long Rapids Rd. Alpena Birthday 9/10

Jim Karsten, 520 Plymouth Dr. Alpena Birthday 9/27

Ethel Janeski, 257 A. S. Oliver. Alpena Birthday 10/29

Delores Baker, 1101 Dow. Alpena Birthday 10/29

Alan Decelle, 3583 S. Third. Alpena Birthday 11/24

Jeff Klein, 487 Pine Meadow Ln. Apt 44. Alpena Birthday 12/1

Bob Larsen, 357 Oliver Unit D. Alpena Birthday 12/2

Beth Bollinger, 451 Pinecrest St. Apt. 20. Alpena Birthday 12/12

Gloria Newton, 2490 Werth Rd. Alpena Birthday 12/13

Services available to members of Immanuel

Weddings: Weddings at Immanuel are for members and non-members wishing to have a Christ-centered marriage. The Pastor will meet with the couple before a date is placed on the calendar to explain the procedures to be married at Immanuel. You do not have to be a member; it is up to the Pastor to determine if he will marry a couple. Every couple must attend pre-marital counseling. Every couple receives a wedding booklet containing the guidelines the church requires for the ceremony. The cost of weddings for members is \$275, and \$375, for non-members which includes: the Pastors fee, Lay Minister, Organist, Wedding Bulletin and use of the church.

Funerals: Funerals at Immanuel are for those who are members or those who are being counseled by one of the Pastors at the time of bereavement. A funeral service for non-members is generally held at one of the area funeral homes; however, if a non-member's family requests a church funeral, the officiating Pastor will consult with the Board of Lay Ministry. After consultation, in special circumstances, a church funeral for a non-member may be approved. Members may choose to have a luncheon that is prepared by ladies of Immanuel who volunteer their time. The cost is approximately \$1.00 per person which covers the cost of purchasing the meat, paper products and staple items. Casseroles, Salads, and Desserts are made and brought by fellow members of the congregation. All arrangements should be made by the officiating pastor who will then contact Cindy Gabara or Marilyn Clute, funeral committee directors.

Baptisms: Anyone; Infant, Child or Adult can be baptized at Immanuel. Contact should be made soon after the birth to schedule a baptism. Once baptized, the individual is considered a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church. In the event of an emergency, contact should be made with the church office or pastor and the pastor will perform the baptism at the place of birth. If there is an imminent emergency and the pastor cannot be reached, any Christian can perform the baptism. Private baptisms can be scheduled but are discouraged, because the congregation should be involved in celebrating the seriousness of God's grace in the life of its newest member. There is no charge for a baptism and monetary gifts are not recommended for a baptism.

Fellowship Room Rental: The fellowship room is available for rent to any member of Immanuel and that member must be on site at the time the rental takes place. In rare cases, exceptions may be made and must be approved by the board of Fellowship and the board of Lay Ministry. The Fellowship Room can never be rented for a member's own personal gain such as to host an event where the member receives monetary benefits. The rental cost is (\$125.) \$75.00 rental fee and \$50 deposit that is returned once the room is inspected and the key is returned to the church office. Rentals are done by reservation only; the key must be picked up by 4:00 pm on Friday for a weekend rental and returned the following Monday. All activities and clean up should conclude by 5:00 pm on Saturdays.

Fall Fun Run/Walk

5k or 1 mile

When: October 24th

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Immanuel Lutheran
School-Wilson St.

Registration: \$25 per participant

* Pay the day of the event



Not a runner/walker? That's ok!

You can sponsor an 8th grader to run/walk for you!

- All funds will benefit the 7th & 8th grade Class Trip to Washington DC
- Prizes for top 3 finishers in the 5K run and for best costumes!
- Cider and donuts for all participants!

Register through the link on the qr code or return the form to the school office:



Name: _____

Participating in (please check one)

- ☐ 5K Run
- ☐ 1 mile walk/run
- ☐ Sponsor 8th grader to walk/run

☐ I understand that I will bring my donation the day of the event



Be part of our church family directory!

NEW DIRECTORY PLANNED FOR 2027

Our last directory was in 2023. Let's make new memories!

PHOTO DATES

February 8 & 9

March 22 & 23

April 5 & 6

May 10 & 11

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Sign up for the date and time that work best for you or your family.

Photographer: Tim Nunneley

This year, we are working with Tim instead of Universal Church Directories.

PICTURE PACKAGES

1 - 8x10

\$25.00

2 - 5x7

\$25.00

Digital File

\$25.00

Every picture package includes a directory!

The church receives \$10.00 from each package to help pay for layout and printing.

NO PHOTO? YOU'RE STILL PART OF IT!

\$8.00

Include your name, address, phone number and other member information, and receive a directory.

Contact the church office: 989-354-4334.

LET'S GET EVERYONE'S INFORMATION UP TO DATE!

Please contact the church office:

989-354-4334

October School News

One of the great blessings of a school like Immanuel is the opportunity to experience genuine community. Children thrive when they know they are known, valued, cared for, and part of something larger than themselves. We often call this a sense of belonging. Strong schools are not merely organizations held together by schedules, policies, and programs. They become communities when people are united by shared values, relationships, trust, and a common purpose.

At Immanuel, our community is not simply built around the fact that we attend the same school. We are gathered around Christ. Scripture reminds us that, "though many, [we] are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:5). That means Christian community is more than a pleasant atmosphere. We bear one another's burdens, encourage one another, forgive one another, serve one another, and rejoice together in the gifts God has given.

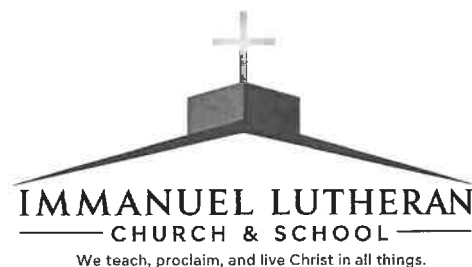
Our mission to **Teach, Proclaim, and Live Christ in all things** is therefore something we share. Teachers, students, parents, congregation members, grandparents, volunteers, and friends of Immanuel each have a place within that community.

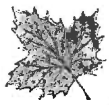
I was reminded of this in a very visible way at our recent Gala. Certainly, there were many people who gave significant time and energy to planning, organizing, decorating, donating, and making the evening possible. But the sense of community went well beyond those who organized it. It could also be seen in the people who came, visited together, laughed together, generously supported the school, and demonstrated simply by their presence that the ministry of Immanuel matters to them.

That kind of support cannot be measured only in dollars raised. It is a reminder that our school does not stand alone. We are surrounded by people who care about our students, believe in the mission of Christian education, and want to see this ministry flourish.

As we continue through this school year, my prayer is that Immanuel will increasingly be a place where our students experience that gift of belonging, especially to a community centered in Christ, where they are known, loved, encouraged, and continually rooted and built up in Him.

In Christ,
Pastor Schultz





Fall Fun Run/Walk

5K or 1 Mile Walk
 October 24th @ 10 am at Immanuel
 Lutheran School
 Registration: \$25 per participant

Proceeds benefit 8th Grade trip to
 Washington D.C.

Donuts & Cider for all participants

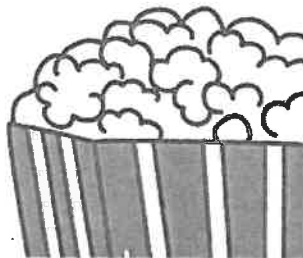
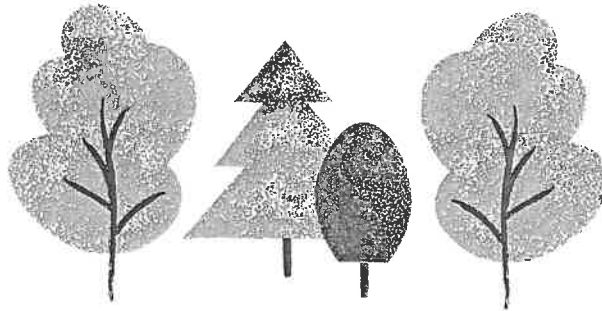


Volunteers and Donations
 needed for our Christmas
 Shopping event on 12/3.
 Use the QR code above to
 sign up!

Picture Retakes:
 November 4th

10/2 and 10/23

"The grass withers and the flowers fall,
 but the word of our God endures forever."
 Isaiah 40:8



To the PTLs and

All SPONSORS:

Thank you for hosting such a
 wonderful Gala. It was an honor to
 attend and be part of such a
 meaningful and memorable evening.
 We truly appreciate all the effort
 that went into making the event
 so special.

-Immanuel Lutheran School

October Chapel offerings to
 benefit: Operation
 Christmas Child

Upcoming Dates

Friday, October 2

No Preschool Enrichment Friday

Monday, October 12

No Bus AM or PM

October 15 - 16

No School for K - 10

Full Day for Preschools
 & Staff (PD)

Thursday, October 22

No Preschool ONLY

Knaebe's Field Trip

Saturday, October 24

Fall Fun Run/Walk @ 10 am

Thursday, October 29

Early Release @ 11 am

P/T Conferences through 7 pm

Friday, October 30

No School

Half Day for Staff (Records)

End of First Grade Period

Friday, November 6

No Preschool Enrichment Friday

School Success with Mrs. Holly Jore

If your child needs support with life changes,
 school transitions, social/emotional challenges, or
 academic concerns, please reach out. Also, if your
 family could benefit from Feeding Kids Ministry's
 weekly food bag or access to the Children's Closet,
 Mrs. Jore is happy to help!

989-358-4681

joreh@nemsca.org



Lunch
 Volunteer
 Sign Up



October Birthdays

10/10 Nora Boboltz

10/10 Rowyn Robbins

10/11 Ella Straley

10/11 Claire Beaubien

10/11 Ella Beaubien

10/12 Colin Samuel

10/14 Jaxon Collins

10/14 Charlotte Lee

10/20 Celeste Samborn

10/22 Lauren Gohl

10/22 Knox McDonald

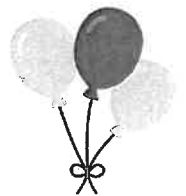
10/24 Margaret Larsen

10/25 Isabella Lepper

10/28 Dominic Roberts

10/30 Faith Myers

10/30 Aiden Kendziorski



OCTOBER 2026

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Usher/Service Schedule

WK	Date / Service	Lay Minister	Head Usher	Ushers	Acolytes
1	October 3 & 4	6:30 pm	_____	WAYNE KOWALSKI, JERRY PLOHOCKY, EVAN KOWALSKI, NICK THIBAUT	Izzy McCrimmon, Brooklyn Krajniak
		8:00 am	BRIAN GLENNIE	ART PAHLKOTTER	Lucas Reynolds
		10:30 am	MATTHEW STEVENS	KURT KRAJNIAK	Taylor Thornton, Eleanor Stevens
2	October 10 & 11	6:30 pm	_____	ROBERT LEWANDOWSKI, MARTY SOMMERFELD, BRANDON NEUMANN	Rory Cummins, Jacob Birmingham
		8:00 am	JERRY NEUMANN	MERTON GABARA, DAVE DICKINS, TOM GERSZEWSKI	Anna Schultz, Lauren Gohl
		10:30 am	BRIAN GLENNIE	DARWIN GRABOW, TOM GRUBAUGH, KARL LARSEN, JIM COMPEAU	Jackson Schaedig, Spencer Nunneley
3	October 17 & 18	6:30 pm	TERRY CLUTE	NOLAN PARRIS, NATHAN PARRIS, KENTON PARRIS, RODNEY CROW, LANDEN MALE-KING, REMINGTON GAGNON, CHRIS GAGNON	Lucy Nowakowski, Amelia Knoll
		8:00 am	DALE PARRIS	ART HOCH, DOUG HUITING, JIM KINDT, JOHN MALE	Lucas Reynolds, Micah Schultz
		10:30 am	MATTHEW STEVENS	JERRY NEUMANN, MATTHEW STEVENS, ADAM SZYDLOWSKI, TOM THORNTON	Tucker Chrzan, Mason Chrzan
4	October 24 & 25	6:30 pm	_____	DALE KRENTZ, RICK YERKS, DAVE LAMARRE, KEN KRENTZ	Brooklyn Krajniak, Ellie Thibault
		8:00 am	_____	ADAM HARDIES, JUSTIN KARSTEN, JON KINDT	Anna Schultz, Meridel Stevens
		10:30 am	BRIAN GLENNIE	GARY GERKE, CRAIG VINING, MASON DONAJKOWSKI, STEVE DONAJKOWSKI	Lauren Gohl
Greeter & Welcome Center					
Wk	1 October	3 & 4	Janet Winfield	10:30 am	
			TBD	Anne Lewandowski, Bev Hiske	
2		10 & 11	Gail Freeman	Carol Schuetz, Elaine Pearcey	
3		17 & 18	Marilyn Clute	Darlene Sommerfeld & Carol Boyd	
4		24 & 25	TBD	Tim Treifa & Ann Gerke	
Serving the Lord with Gladness				Finance: Bobbie Cornell	
Altar Guild:				Shelley Tuuri, Lori Smolinski, Pat LaFleur	
Flower Committee				Lori Kipmiller 989-884-4717, Kathy Nowak 989-657-9646	
Bulletin Folders				Pattie Peppel, Nancy Birmingham, Barb Raniszewski, Pam Cramer	

Tune in to hear different messages every week

2026 OCTOBER

Rev. James D. Erickson: 989-356-4018
Deacon: James Wolf

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LWML Sunday 4 8AM - Communion Service 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM-Bible Study 9:15AM 7th-12th Grade Bible Study 10:30 AM - Worship Service 2PM-Turning Brook LWML Bake Sale - Fellowship Room - Before/After Services	5 7AM-Early Bird Study SPM-Grief Share (Library) 6PM-Women's Bible Study Michigan District Pastors & Wives Conference @ Boyne Mountain Resort	6 8:30AM-Quilters 5:30PM Finance Meeting/Library 6PM-Special Voter's Meeting	7 8:15AM ILS Chapel Sanctuary 11:30AM 99.9 Recording Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	8 8:30AM-Quilters - Adult Ed. Rm. 11AM- Prayer Circle 2PM-Bible Study 4:30PM-Fowler Service 5:30PM - Adult Inquirers Alternate 6PM-Adult Choir 6:30PM-Close Back Door 7PM-Al-Anon - Adult Ed.	9 6PM Youth Group Hayride - Shubert Highway 	10 9AM-12PM LWR U-Haul Loading 10AM St. John's Hillman Sunshine Zone Fall Rally 6:30PM Communion Service
11 8AM - Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM-Bible Study 9:15AM 7th-12th Grade Bible Study 10:30 AM - Communion Service 12:00PM - Baby Shower/Parti Kelley 2PM-Turning Brook	12 7AM-Early Bird Study 9:30AM-Social Ministry SPM-Grief Share (Library) 6PM-Fall Adult Inquirers SPM-LWML Board Meeting 6PM Women's Bible Study	13 8:30AM-Quilters 1PM - LWML Priscilla Adult Ed. 6PM- Parish Board Meeting 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	14 8:15AM ILS Chapel Sanctuary 11:30AM 99.9 Recording Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	15 8:30AM-Quilters - Adult Ed. Rm. 11AM- Prayer Circle 2PM-Bible Study 4:30PM-Fowler Service 5:30PM - Adult Inquirers Alternate 6PM-Adult Choir 6:30PM-Close Back Door 7PM-Al-Anon - Adult Ed.	16 	17 6:30PM-Worship Service
18 8AM - Communion Service 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM-Bible Study 9:15AM 7th-12th Grade Bible Study 10:30 AM - Worship Service 2PM-Turning Brook	19 7AM-Early Bird Study SPM-Grief Share (Library) 6PM-Fall Adult Inquirers 6PM- Women's Bible Study	20 8:30AM-Quilters SPM- PT/LS At Pincrest 6PM Parish Planning Council Meeting Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	21 8:15AM ILS Chapel Sanctuary 11:30AM 99.9 Recording Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	22 8:30AM-Quilters - Adult Ed. Rm. 11AM- Prayer Circle 2PM-Bible Study 4:30PM-Fowler Service 5:30PM - Adult Inquirers Alternate 6PM-Adult Choir 6:30PM-Close Back Door 7PM-Al-Anon - Adult Ed.	23 NO ACTIVITIES	24 10AM ILS Fall Fun Run/Walk 6:30PM- Communion Service
25 Reformation Sunday 8AM - Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM-Bible Study 9:15AM 7th-12th Grade Bible Study 10:30 AM - Communion Service 12PM Congregation Reformation Sunday Pot Luck 2PM-Turning Brook	26 7AM-Early Bird Study SPM- SS Teachers Training SPM-Grief Share (Library) 6PM-Fall Adult Inquirers 6PM- Women's Bible Study	27 8:30AM-Quilters 8:15AM ILS Chapel Sanctuary 11:30AM 99.9 Recording Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	28 8:15AM ILS Chapel Sanctuary 11:30AM 99.9 Recording Midweek Meditation 6PM Youth Group 6PM 6th Grade Confirmation 7PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation	29 8:30AM-Quilters - Adult Ed. Rm. 8AM-12PM ILS Preschool Fall Party 11AM- Prayer Circle 2PM-Bible Study 4:30PM-Fowler Service 5:30PM - Adult Inquirers Alternate 6PM-Adult Choir 6:30PM-Close Back Door 7PM-Al-Anon - Adult Ed.	30 NO ACTIVITIES	31 6:30PM-Worship Service