

**IMMANUEL SPEAKS
NOVEMBER 2024**



Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As we enter the month of November I have a question for you; what are you thankful for? As we gather on Thanksgiving Eve for worship we will hear the familiar story of the ten lepers. Leprosy was a dangerous skin disease where a person basically rotted away. It was also very contagious. To protect the community from spread those who had leprosy were forced to live outside of community. The only problem in Biblical days was that diagnosing leprosy wasn't that easy compared to today with modern science. And so in the end if you had a skin condition that didn't clear up you were considered a leper and cast out of the community.

Imagine no longer being able to live amongst family and friends; it doesn't sound too great does it. Now imagine that one day you see Jesus walking by. Having heard of his power and ability to heal diseases and cast out demons what do you do? You would cry out to him, wouldn't you? That is exactly what the lepers do in the story and Jesus responds by healing you. So what do you do know? Well, nine of the lepers return to their old lives immediately. Who could blame them? I would be excited to be able to see my family and friends again. However, one response is different. The tenth leper when he notices he has been healed immediately turns around and worships Jesus and give thanks. The tenth leper recognizes where his healing has come from and praises God.

And so I ask again, what are you thankful for? This story serves as a reminder for us of the many ways God provides for us. Luther in his explanations to the three articles of the creed sums it up nicely. What do we have to be thankful for? From the first article we find that we are thankful that God provides for all of the physical needs of this body and life. From the second article we find that we are thankful because of God's free gift of love, grace, and forgiveness. Lost and dead in our sin, our Savior Jesus Christ has redeemed us from the powers of sin, death, and the devil and has named us as God's beloved children. From the third article we find that we are thankful for a God who continues to work among us through scripture and the sacraments bringing and keeping us in relationship with God. I encourage you as we enter the month of Thanksgiving to dust off those catechisms and read through Luther's explanations to the creed and see the many things that we have to be thankful for.

There is also one more theme of this familiar passage that I would like to highlight as we travel through the month of Thanksgiving and that is how Jesus acts with compassion upon those in need. Jesus was well aware of the risk of interacting with lepers and yet he is willing to take it. He doesn't see them as contagious people, as outcasts who are shunned or to be avoided. Rather he sees them as children of God in need so he acts. The question is are we moved with the same compassion for those around us.

As we sit down to feast on Thanksgiving, the fact remains that for many there will be no feast. Whether it is the lack of food, homeless, no family or friends, or the loss of family members or friends, and the list can go on and on; for many Thanksgiving isn't a joyous time. So what can we do to show compassion and love like Jesus? As we prepare our Thanksgiving grocery list maybe we could pick up a few items so that someone can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Maybe we could send some money to support communities and groups that sponsor a Thanksgiving meal. Maybe we pick up the phone and call or invite someone to be a part of our Thanksgiving and the list can go on and on. This story also reminds us that as God's people here on earth we are called to be faithful stewards of the resources that God has entrusted to us. From the call to Adam & Eve to care for creation to Jesus' call to love one another as he has loved us; we as God's people are called to be a blessing!

Happy Thanksgiving, Pastor Joel

October 14, 2024

1. Pastoral Acts

- 47 pastoral visits
- 1 wedding: Logan Nilsen & Baily Kruger

2. Worship

- Clara City Care center
 - Led worship on Sept. 25th & Oct. 9th
- ELCA Youth Gathering thank you worship service, Oct. 6th
- Confirmation Sunday, October 27th @ 9am

3. Education/Youth

- Sunday School
 - Prairie woods environmental learning for prek-9th on Sept. 30
- Confirmation/Youth
 - Confirmation continues its journey through the NT
 - ELCA Youth Gathering presenting in worship & Thank you meal for the congregation, Oct. 6th
 - Jr. High Youth Gathering Nov. 22nd-23rd in Willmar

4. Mission & Outreach

- Looney Lutheran through community ed. Oct. 5th
 - Thank you to all who attended! We raised over \$4,000 dollars for the MACPAC!
- Community meal Oct. 6th. It was a busy night from open to close!

5. Continuing Education/Pastoral Self-Care

- Faith+lead (Luther Seminary) courses
- Fall theological education in Spicer (Oct. 6th-8th)

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024

Present: Gabby Rognlie, Katherine Schwitters (Treasurer), Pastor Joel, Andrea Prekker, Cheryl Colby, Laurie Dieken, Jane Niemeyer

Absent: Terry Noble, Randy Grussing, Derek Rand,

Meeting was called to order by President Andrea Prekker. M/S/P to accept agenda.

Reports: Secretary's Report: M/S/P to accept report.

Treasurer's Report: September General Fund Income: \$21,207.17
September General Fund Expenses: \$19,522.72
M/S/P to accept report.

Committee Reports: Endowment Committee met with Thrivent for update.

Pastor's Report: Reviewed.

Old Business: 1. Offering envelopes. The amount of offering envelopes will be decreased.
There will be a more detailed explanation in the church newsletter.

New Business: 1. Noisy Offering for 3rd quarter was redesignated to Immanuel Youth.
2. Budget Committee will be on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Next Church Council Meeting will be on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

M/S/P to adjourn the meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Niemeyer
Church Council Secretary

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 3: PowerPoint/Acolyte: Kayden Prekker
Lay Reader: Gary Meyer
Altar Guild: Ken & Jan Beyerl

Sunday, November 10: PowerPoint/Acolyte: Hudson Hansen
Lay Reader: Laine Rieger
Altar Guild: Sara Sabe

Sunday, November 17: PowerPoint/Acolyte: Hayden Emkes
Lay Reader: Cindy Meyer
Altar Guild: Michele Shubert

Sunday, November 24: PowerPoint/Acolyte: Jana Rand
Lay Reader: Michele Shubert
Altar Guild: Carissa Pederson

Wednesday, November 27: PowerPoint/Acolyte: Austen Olson (7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve)
Altar Guild: Judy Gosseling

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DAN TRIBE FOR DECEMBER 2024

Below we have printed the Tribe Membership for December 2024. The chairperson will be calling or texting you in the near future, asking you to help serve Immanuel in some small way. Start thinking About what you can volunteer to help with! If everyone takes a job, the “needs” list will be filled. Thank you for volunteering!

- Ross and Brenda Harms
- Dave and Carol Groff
- Rod and Barb Miller
- Curt and Diane Meints
- Rose Berghuis
- Dennis and Donna Roberts
- Adela Fuls
- Byron and Pam Sulflow
- LuAnn Kruger
- Mark and Kim Miller
- Jordan and Lydia Freese

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MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSES OF IMMANUEL

To keep everyone informed on or financial stewardship, monthly General Fund income and expenses will be provided in the Church Council minutes. Please prayerfully consider your end-of-year giving as we strive to meet our financial goals. Your support is vital to our mission and community impact. Thank you for your generosity! Please contact myself or any council member with any questions. Katherine Schwitters, Treasurer.

2024 General Fund Budget: \$242,309

2024 General Fund Income as of 9/30/24: \$137,637

2024 General Fund Income Needed to Make Budget by December 31, 2024: \$104,672

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THANKSGIVING DAY COMMUNITY MEAL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

Will you be alone? Family members have other plans?
Come join others for food and fellowship.
Thursday, November 28th at 12:00 p.m.
Clara City Community Center.
Everyone is welcome!
Hope to see you there!
Rides are available if needed.
Please call to let us know if you plan on attending.
Call Dennis /Donna Roberts at 847-2688 or
Dean/Judy Gosseling at 847-2601.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 7:00 P.M.

Please join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Communion on Wednesday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m.

The office will be closed on Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th. Also, there will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 1st.



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OPEN RADIO BROADCASTS FOR 2025

Yes, 2025 is right around the corner! Listed below are the open radio broadcasts for 2025. If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast, please contact the church office at 847-2138 or talk to Kathy Speiser or Pastor Joel. The cost is \$100 for each broadcast. Thank you to all of you who have supported this outreach of Immanuel.

January 12, 19	July 6, 13, 27
February 2, 9, 16, 23	August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
March 2, 9, 16	September 14, 21, 28
April 13, 27	October 12, 19
May 25	November 2, 16, 23, 30
June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	December 7, 14, 21, 28

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HANGING OF THE GREENS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 9:00 A.M.

Hanging of the Greens will be on Saturday, November 30, 9:00 a.m. It is hard to believe, but the season of Advent, preparing for our Lord, is coming very soon. That being said, it will be the time to decorate Immanuel into its Christmas season finery! **Everyone** is invited to help decorate Immanuel. Please come and help! Many volunteers are needed to help with this!

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PULLED PORK DINNER &
BAKE SALE

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

NOVEMBER 2ND



Dinner Served

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Free Will Donation

TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE

Bake Sale

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM





FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 5:00-6:00 P.M.

The Community Meal will be served on Sunday, November 3rd from 5:00-6:00 p.m. The menu is: hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetable and dessert. We will be serving in the Fellowship Hall, and also doing the drive thru in the alley way. Please let us know how many meals you need by either calling the church office or signing up on our Facebook page. This meal is free and all are welcome!

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 9:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

On Sunday, November 3rd, at the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service we will celebrate all saints and the promise that God has given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. We invite all family members of the saints who have died this year, to come forward during the worship service and light a candle in memory of their loved one. The saints who have died in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Virgene Meyer	November 29, 2023
Opal "Kit" Colby	December 30, 2023
Myron Prekker	January 15, 2024
Edna Kleene	February 22, 2024
Alice Jaenisch	April 5, 2024
Sharon Stager	March 18, 2024
Robert Tischer	May 10, 2024
Dwight Lee Mulder	October 23, 2024

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024

Leia Colby

Baptized: January 11, 2009, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Mary Sietsema, Tera Roskens, Darin & Denise Niemeyer

Confirmation Verse: "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." (Matthew 6:34)

Kailani Hansen

Baptized: December 19, 2009, Faith Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Darcie Johnson, Kevin Rosendahl

Confirmation Verse: "Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

Logan Jaenisch

Baptized: May 14, 2017, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Amber Johnson, Brian Fifield

Confirmation Verse: "The house was built with stone finished at the quarry, so that neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron was heard in the temple while it was being built." (1 Kings 6:7)

Grant Meyer

Baptized: March 8, 2009, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Ashley Hoffman, Kriston Hegna, Haily Schmitz

Confirmation Verse: "Whenever I am afraid, I put my trust in you." (Psalm 56:3)

Brielle Niesen

Baptized: November 2, 2008, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Joseph Koenen, Melissa & Derek Thalberg

Confirmation Verse: "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." (Isaiah 43:1)

Emersyn Pederson

Baptized: November 23, 2008, Trinity Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Nick Olson, Brent & Amanda Pederson

Confirmation Verse: "Jesus said, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.'" (John 13:7)

Kylie Prekker

Baptized: July 29, 2012, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Aaron Frank, Megan Prekker

Confirmation Verse: "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us." (Romans 8:18)

Kailee Rosendahl

Baptized: January 18, 2009, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Allison Mickels, Shane Hansen, Heather Hansen

Confirmation Verse: "Jesus said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest?" (Luke 12:22-26)

Eva Swenson

Baptized: February 1, 2009, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sponsors: Jason & Melissa Lutler

Confirmation Verse: "Jesus said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there", and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.'" (Matthew 17:20)

November

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00-2:00 Bake Sale/Noon Luncheon
3 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 SS/Fellowship Hour 5:00-6:00 Community Meal	4	5	6 6:00 Confirmation Meal 6:30 Confirmation 5:00-7:00 Dwight Mulder Visitation	7 11:00 Dwight Mulder Funeral	8	9
10 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 SS/Fellowship Hour 10:00 Church Council Meeting	11	12 1:00 Quilting 6:00 Budget Committee Meeting	13 6:00 Confirmation Meal 6:30 Confirmation	14	15	16
17 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 SS/Fellowship Hour	18 1:30 Joy Bible Study	19	20 6:00 Confirmation Meal 6:30 Confirmation	21	22	23
24 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 SS/Fellowship Hour	25	26 1:00 Quilting	27 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service No Confirmation	28 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30 9:00 Hanging of the Greens

3 Ways to Give Online-NEW to Immanuel!

Safe, Secure, and Convenient!

1. Download the FREE Vanco app to your phone.

- Search **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement** on your app store.
- Search for **Immanuel Lutheran Church of Clara City.** (Make sure you choose **CLARA CITY**-there are many different ILC's)
- You will need to sign up to create a login. Then, you can give from the app anywhere...anytime!



*******OR*******

2. Scan the QR code below with your phone camera to give to General Fund, Building Fund, Sunday School kids, or Youth (7th-12th) Fund.

- Scroll to choose your desired fund.



- You can give once or set up recurring gifts. You may use credit/debit card (3% charge that you can choose to pay or take off of your offering) or via your bank account at 1% charge.

*******OR*******

3. Church Website. (NOT FACEBOOK). Visit us at: <https://www.ilc-claracity.org/>

- Click '**Online Giving**' at the top of the page and choose your desired fund. Follow the instructions online.

We want to make church giving convenient for you. If you have any questions, please contact Kat Schwitters at (320)-894-2658. Please consider giving to Immanuel in order to continue the work we do here.

