

# Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church



## August 2024

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## Rev. John Kuziej - Interim Pastor

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Member of the ELCA Churchwide [elca.org](http://elca.org) &  
the Northern Great Lakes Synod [nglsynod.org](http://nglsynod.org)



Visit us on our Website @  
[Immanuelrhinelander.org](http://Immanuelrhinelander.org)

*"Inspired by God's grace to love and serve all"*

## Message from Interim Pastor John Kuziej

I slammed on the brakes to prevent a tragedy. Thankfully, I was able to stop in time. I was driving along U.S. 45 when suddenly a group of about a dozen baby ducks decided to cross the road. The brood made it to the other side because I not only braked hard but fortunately, they scampered right along. If the baby duck entourage would have hesitated, I would have run right into them. No traffic was coming from the other direction.

It is maternity time in the Northwoods. It would have bothered me something fierce if I ran over the innocent baby ducks. Lord, protect our woodland critters as they cross busy roads. It did not take me long to think about little human children who have not escaped death due to war. Not long ago the news reported the horror of a Russian missile hitting a children's hospital in the Ukraine. And then there is Gaza where it is reported 30,000 civilians have been killed in the eight-month war between Hamas and Israel. Most of the deaths are women and children. It is troubling to see on the news bereaved parents holding a tiny bundle-an infant, a toddler in a burial shroud. Children are threatened in our own nation because of gang violence. Death by bullet is the number one cause of death of children in the United States. In our country, a land of plenty, nearly 40 million citizens are not sure about their next meal. Our precious little ones are being run over by war machines, gun violence, greed, no legislation to help, and apathy.

Wars are beyond our control. Wars are hard to stop; you would think that the death of one innocent child would cause combatants to immediately cease fighting. But no, civilian deaths are said to be "too bad", and the bloodshed continues. You may remember President Eisenhower's famous warning about the military-industrial complex gobbling up resources that could have been used to feed hungry children.

We may wonder why God has not done anything to stop wars and silence rumors of future ones. The Christian witness has been cast aside by some who cannot believe in a loving God when there is so much suffering. The Christian witness has been hurt by those who use the Bible to justify hatred against other human beings created in God's image. I think all we can do with those who walk away from the faith is to listen without judgment and try to understand. A true understanding of the Bible is to listen to the words of revelation, telling us what God desires of us, which is to love kindness, do justice, and walk humbly with God. (Micah 6:8)

Jesus came to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Jesus was not violent. At the time of his arrest and crucifixion he told his disciples to put their swords away. He refused to call the heavenly armies of angels to rescue him. Jesus obediently went to the cross: his death is redemptive, setting us free from any sin or separation from God. The cross ever proves God

is for us and not against us. At the time of the apostles, the cross was a scandal, capital punishment for criminals. But the cross reveals how much God loves us, and how such divine love guides us to be a people of peace. If we think someone is an enemy, the apostle Paul reminds us that the person is a brother or sister for whom Jesus died for to save.

Jesus prayed and is praying (interceding) for us now. Jesus knows what kind of world we live in. We need the inspiration (the Breath of God, the Holy Spirit) so our actions and outlook are guided by God's will for the world: daily bread (enough for all), forgiveness and choosing (if possible) reconciliation. Jesus has not left us with just a shallow wish of good luck. He is with us in all trials and temptations and promises to bear our burdens with us.

Thankful that Jesus is with us, let us live confident of his care and boldly pray, "Lord, lead me each day so I walk by your kingdom's way of peace, guide me to be a person of mercy, and assure me there are things to do to bring healing to others and the world." So, we continue to donate to the ELCA Hunger Appeal to help the poor in our country and the world. Let us continue to make meals for Frederick Place, not only providing something tasty, but teaching ourselves to be compassionate. Let us continue to donate to area food pantries and volunteer our service. Every volunteer hour, every can of food donated, and every encouraging word helps us to keep on track with Jesus. It is not only a privilege to "take it to the Lord in prayer", but also a privilege to obey Jesus and show love for all God's children.

It is depressing to hear of some many innocent lives lost in war. I recall a visit to a refugee center in Nairobi, Kenya. I was part of a Lutheran World Relief tour. At a Sunday service, the pastor said that when she thinks of heaven, she does imagine fluffy clouds and harp playing. She said although many women from the Sudan have been defeated, God has not been defeated, and all things are possible with God. She spoke of heaven as no discrimination, no war, and no poverty.

## **OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC**

**AUGUST 4TH AT HODAG PARK  
@10 AM (please note the time)**

**POT LUCK—MEAT AND BUNS PROVIDED**

**PAVILLION #3  
NEAR THE BOAT LANDING**



**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Congregational Meeting, June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Call to order:**

JoAnne Barrix opened the meeting at 9:57 am

- Quorum is met.
- **Action – Motion/Second/Carried...** Approve expenditures of \$3,934.74 to DeWitt Electric for replacement of the two parking lot lights located on the top edge of the building, replacement of the light that shines on the cross above the entrance and two lights on Timber Drive side above the exterior doors. Replacement with LED lights. **Unanimous.**

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:59 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristine Mladucky, Council Secretary

## Help Wanted -Now Hiring!!

Does spending time with youth in the church sound exciting? Or do you enjoy refreshing your memory on bible stories you heard as a kid or learning new stories? Crafting, games, conversation and fun... Faith Explorers is where it is at.

After many years our current FE teachers are nearing "retirement" and are in need of teachers to close out this "school" year (ending May 12) and for the fall when classes resume.

On the job training is offered, scheduling is flexible accommodating to your personal preference.

Please contact Sarah Willoughby or Becky Eades for more details.



**OFFICE HOURS MAY VARY IN AUGUST AS OUR  
OUR SECRETARY WILL BE TAKING TWO DIFFERENT  
VACATIONS IN AUGUST.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE OFFICE MAY NOT BE  
OPEN DUE TO JOANNE BARRIX'S AVAILABILITY TO  
FILL IN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**



Our deepest condolences to the family of Barbara Laddusire, sister of Richard Laddusire, who passed away on July 8. Cards of condolence may be sent to Richard at: 5077 Grossman Avenue, Rhinelander.

Our deepest condolences to the family of Lois Lucharich who passed away on July 5. Cards of condolence may be sent to Carlson Funeral Home: 134 N. Stevens Street, Rhinelander.

Our deepest condolences to the family of Angeline Hoppe who passed away on May 8. Cards of condolence may be sent to Carlson Funeral Home: 134 N. Stevens Street, Rhinelander.



## **Pastoral Visits**

Immanuel Lutheran Church has welcomed Pastor John Kuziej as our Administrative Interim Pastor. He is happy to schedule visits with home-bound individuals and is also available for hospital visits. Please feel free to contact him if you have these needs. He has office hours at Immanuel on Tuesdays from 10:00 am until noon and is also available by appointment.

## **Newsletter Available Electronically**

If you would rather read the newsletter electronically, you can access a copy on our website @ [immanuelrhinelander.org/newsletter](http://immanuelrhinelander.org/newsletter)

**THE TUESDAY MORNING CREW MEETS EVERY TUESDAY MORNING TO  
PERFORM ODD JOBS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH.**

**PLEASE REACH OUT TO JOHN PLAUTZ IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP!**

**715-367-3762 [jeplautz@hotmail.com](mailto:jeplautz@hotmail.com)**

**IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Council Meeting Minutes June 12th, 2024

Council Members Present: President – JoAnne Barrix, Vice-President – Glenn Johnson, Secretary – Kristine Mladucky, Mary Wolf, Darlene Machtan, Tina Schmitz, Christy Dellenbach, Bill Anderson, Richard Laddusire, John Plautz, Pastor John Kuziej, and guest Kathy Maule

**Opening**

JoAnne Barrix opened the hybrid meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Devotion** by Kristine “The importance of waiting”

**Action – Motion/Second/Carried...** Approved the minutes from the May 8th, 2024 meeting. Unanimous.

**Pastor's Report:**

1. New Member, Jeffrey Parsons.
2. Health matter. Pastor John living with complications of Sciatica. Asking for assistance with communion and being able to sit (if needed) during the sermon. JoAnne and John P. volunteered and will ask others when in need.
3. Would like to do a blessing for those attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Kristy will contact youth (5) and adults (4) to schedule a possible time. JoAnne shared that Brian Willoughby will donate \$22 for 30 cooling towels for the Youth Gathering Hurricane Survival Kits.
4. Good Shepherd Lutheran Campus Ministry (Michigan Tech) Food Program asking for donations to update facilities and become a fully licensed kitchen. JoAnn shared that the Stewardship Committee will donate \$200 from the endowment fund.
5. There will be a workshop for Lay Preachers in July – more information to follow.

**Long-Term Items:**

1. Witness: Sharing the Gospel (3x/year). Active participation with food ministry, and Nursing/ Assisted living facilities services.
2. Seek full participation of members in Disciple making, Witnessing and Caring Ministries (Quarterly). Food Pantry, NATH, The Table, Quilts, Eye glass/Phone donations.
3. Discuss manage and protect property: (Semi-Annually). See below.

**Short-Term Items:**

**Old Business:**

1. Facilities Update:

**a.** Rented lift to clad/paint windows, pressure washed, checked Parapet caps (made of concrete and can be patched, can save \$1,500). Big thank you to Devon Vanden Huevel for the work on the windows. Will need to rent the lift again to finish the work.

**b.** The roof work will start no sooner than August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**c.** The pot hole in parking lot is not on our property.

**d.** Proposal from T.J. De Witt & Company estimate for LED replacement lights for parking lot: \$3,934.74.

**Action – Motion/Second/Carried...** Approved proposal for LED replacement lights for parking lot. Unanimous.

NOTE: A special congregation meeting needs to approve the cost (anything above \$3,000). Will be announced 6/16, 6/23 and VOTE 6/30.

2. Call committee Update: No new updates. Continue prayers!
3. General Fund Investment of \$60,000 at 4.9% interest CD has been made the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June.
4. For the World Hunger fund at the Synod Assembly our congregations raised \$742.62.

### **New Business:**

1. Landscaping Needs (presented by Kathy Maule) Our outward appearance around our church is in need of maintenance.
  - a. 2 dead trees on Brown St. will be removed by the city.
  - b. Invasive Buckthorn, Box Elder and dead Lilac removal.
  - c. Weeding all around the building (constant diligence needed)!
  - d. Timbers used for landscaping are rotting (replace?).
  - e. Trees too close to building, not keeping up with pruning (remove?).
  - f. Bushes need replacement.
  - g. Plants need to be removed (or moved) around air conditioning units.
  - h. Current electric weed eater not working well, possibly purchase battery powered.
  - i. Access to water faucets difficult.
  - j. Do we have enough volunteers to mow, do we consider a mow service?  
**Action – Motion/Second/Carried...**Develop a Garden Committee to oversee the needs of our grounds. Unanimous.
  - k. Have an Annual Spring & Fall clean-up.
  - l. If interested in being part of the Garden Committee contact Kathy Maule.
2. Counters and Teams: There are not enough counters for 5-week rotation, and should be two people (not from same family). Currently need at least one more person.
3. FYI Pastor Jim Duehring retiring on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Open/Close/Devotions**

June – John O/C and Kristine Devotions

July – Linda O/C/D

August – Mary O/C/D

### **NATH Meals**

June – WELCA

July – Band & Choir

August -?

**Closing Prayer:** Kristine, poem “Be Still”

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristine Mladucky, Council Secretary

Income/Expense Comparison by Category  
1/1/2024 thru 12/31/2024

Category	2024						OTHER VOUCHERS		Cost of Vouchers
	10/1/2024	7/1/2024	4/1/2024	1/1/2024	YTD THRU	12/31/2024	1st Qrt.	# vouchers	
<b>INCOME</b>									
ACES INCOME									
TOTAL ACES INCOME: Church Donation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$5,250.00	Goodwill	0	\$150.00	
ACES INCOME: Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$764.71	\$178.00	\$942.71	Sal. Army	19	\$5,677.00	
TOTAL ACES INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,764.71	\$1,428.00	\$6,192.71				
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,764.71</b>	<b>\$1,428.00</b>	<b>\$6,192.71</b>				
<b>EXPENSES</b>									
<b>ACES EXPENSES</b>									
ACES EXPENSES: Cell phone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$150.00	Sal. Army	14	\$350.00	
ACES EXPENSES: Office Supplies, P O Box, 501 C application	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$272.80	\$50.00	\$322.80				
ACES EXPENSES: Appreciation Dinner	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3rd Quarter 2024			
ACES EXPENSES: Annual Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$69.72	\$0.00	\$69.72	Nativity	0	\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$417.52</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	<b>\$542.52</b>	Goodwill	0	\$0.00	
<b>ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests</b>									
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Request: Rent Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$850.00	\$1,150.00	Sal. Army	0	\$0.00	
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: insulation for a truck	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28.46	\$28.46				
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: WPS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00				
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: NATH Taxi Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00				
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: Vehicle service repair/ins.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$160.00	\$660.00	4th quarter 2024			
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: pharmacy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00				
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: Diapers/Wipes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76.74	\$61.63	\$138.37				
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: Propane	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$307.95	\$307.95	Nativity	0	\$0.00	
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: frontier phone/internet	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$360.13	\$360.13	Goodwill	0	\$0.00	
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: Water Heater/Well pump	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$943.39	\$0.00	\$943.39	Sal. Army	0	\$0.00	
ACES EXPENSES: Client Check Requests: furniture/refrigerator	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00				
TOTAL ACES EXPENSES: CLIENT Check Requests	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,040.13</b>	<b>\$2,868.17</b>	<b>\$4,908.30</b>				
<b>ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS</b>									
ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS: Taxi rides for NATH	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	YTD 2024			
ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS: Gas Vouchers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Nativity	9	\$450.00	
ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS: McDonalds Gift Cards	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Goodwill	14	\$350.00	
ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS: Aldi's gift cards	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Sal. Army	54	\$14,905.15	
ACES EXPENSES: VOUCHERS: Bus transportation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00				
TOTAL ACES EXPENSES: Vouchers	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>				
TOTAL ACES EXPENSES	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,457.65</b>	<b>\$2,993.17</b>	<b>\$5,450.82</b>				
1st quarter			3rd quarter						
calls	86		calls	0					
clients helped	86		clients helped	0					
2nd quarter			4th quarter						
calls	120		calls	0		ytd		206	
clients helped	120		clients helped	0		helped		206	



**ACES is Rhinelander's Association of Churches for Emergency Support. It is the gathering of Rhinelander Churches to show the love of Christ in tangible ways to those in need.**

The purpose of the Association of Churches for Emergency Support (ACES) is to coordinate emergency aid, utilize a pool of funds, draw a connection between the Rhinelander area churches and public service agencies, and to divide the administrative tasks that come with providing such aid. In essence, our goal is to see emergency aid delivered to people, who are in need, in the most efficient, effective and Christ-like manner.

Several churches participate in ACES, both through volunteer hours and finances. Any church wishing to join in participation can inquire with the Executive Committee and will be allowed to do so after the committees approval. Membership dues are individually based on the resources of the participating church. Churches participating currently are, Calvary Baptist, Immanuel, Trinity, UCC, Nativity, Grace Foursquare, United Methodist and Saint Augustine.

Churches are responsible to recruit, retain and release competent volunteers to represent ACES and all of its members. That volunteer will handle all calls, issue vouchers, and document interactions of the requests coming into Rhinelander's ACES. Each shift is for two or more weeks. After the period, both the outgoing and incoming church volunteers must meet to verify all paperwork and voucher inventory as well as deliver the phone and current client needs. Training sessions are offered and mandatory for all volunteers. All volunteers will have clear expectations, procedures, and resources to accomplish their integral role.

For the 2nd quarter of 2024 ACES and Salvation Army funds were used for many different needs. Disconnects started again in April so there were needs for clients to get their power back on and Energy Assistance has been working with ACES and SA to provide this assistance. Many times there was a match from Energy Assistance and SA. There were many clients in need of rent as well and SA funds were used.

This quarter ACES money was able to help with car repair, rent, WPS, furniture, diapers and wipes, brake repair and pharmacy. Nativity vouchers were given out for help with furniture and clothing and any other need the client might have. Goodwill cards were replenished and now clients were able to use those as well.

This quarter ACES was blessed with special donations of \$764.71 along with donations from our wonderful churches that keep this ministry going. This community indeed does God's work.

We did receive 120 calls this quarter and 206 calls for the year. Between ACES and Salvation Army we are doing our best to help these clients. May God continue to keep all safe and well.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry please contact Dianne Syms or Mary Meek.

Thank you again for your continued support.  
Dianne Syms, ACES Treasurer

# Helping To Build A Hunger-Free Community



**RAFP**  
627 Coon Street  
Rhineland, WI

Thank you to our July Food Pantry crew for sharing the love of Christ through serving! Volunteering is a great way to show the love of Christ to those in our community. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Darlene Machtan. Immanuel volunteers the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8:45 am—11:30 am.



**SUMMER 2024**

**FREE FOOD BAGS FOR KIDS!**

**JULY 11 - AUGUST 29**

**4-6PM AT THE RHINELANDER DISTRICT LIBRARY**

The graphic features a green monster-like creature with horns and a spiked tail, sitting on a green food wagon. The wagon has a sign that says "HODAG FOOD WAGON" and is filled with various food items like carrots, tomatoes, and a box. The background is yellow with a sunburst pattern.

The Rhineland Area Food Pantry Garden (RAFPG) operates seasonally and grows up to 5,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious produce for RAFP each year.

RAFPG hosts the farmer's market table. This is a seasonal, free market open to RAFP customers that provides fresh, organic, and local produce. In addition, RAFPG offers plant starts to all customers as available.

Volunteers are always appreciated to continue this valuable effort. No experience necessary!

#### **Volunteer Opportunities include:**

- Till and plant (spring)
- Weed the garden
- Harvest produce
- Wash, package, and transport produce to the pantry
- Host the RAFPG Farmer's Market table during Pantry hours

**Contact:** Tom Jerow at 715-369-6875 or [tjerow@gmail.com](mailto:tjerow@gmail.com)

**Garden Locations:** RAFPG located at 1011 Thayer Street and the RAFP Greenhouse located at 627 Coon Street

During the growing season, experienced gardeners will be at the RAFPG location on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 8am to 11am to coordinate activities and answer questions.



## EQUITY CHALLENGE

*“If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” John 8:31(b)-32.*

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT.....

Black Wall Street?

Emmett Till?

Hate groups in Wisconsin?

Ahmaud Aubrey?

The Black National Anthem?

After 103 years, the first Tulsa Race Massacre victim has been identified by anthropologists searching in a mass grave. The victim was C. J. Daniel, a WW I veteran killed on May 31, 1921 when a mob of deputized Whites destroyed the prosperous community of 10,000 Blacks in the Greenwood area known as Black Wall Street. Armed with guns, explosives, and fire bombs, Whites decimated the area, leaving it like a war-torn city, killing an unknown number, buried in a mass grave. In 2001 a state commission recommended reparations to the descendants of survivors, a scholarship fund, an economic development enterprise for the Greenwood area, and a memorial for the reburial of those who died.

In 1955, 14 year old Emmett Till from Chicago was killed after allegations of sexual harassment by White Carolyn Bryant who, at 84, recanted all her statements. Although his body was mutilated beyond recognition, his mother, Mamie Mobley-Till had an open casket funeral attended by 50,000 people. The killing sparked activism by thousands of young people. A boycott of the store where the incident occurred (after the 2 white men accused of the murder were acquitted) resulted in the store's closure.

There are 12 hate groups and 16 anti-government groups in Wisconsin as identified by the Southern Poverty Law Center in 2023. None of the groups is located on Indian lands.

Ahmaud Aubrey was killed by three White men who chased him down in a truck after seeing him running by their house. Aubrey was out for a jog near his home before being shot. The three men were convicted of a federal hate crime, attempted kidnapping, and discharging a firearm. All three received lengthy prison sentences for the murder.

The Black National Anthem, sung in many church services on the Sunday nearest to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January on page 841 in our hymnal. The ending lines encourage us to “...*stand true to our God, true to our native land.*”

The July assassination attack on a presidential candidate reminds us that hate begets hate and peace begets peace. Let us remember the truth of our past. Let us reject the violence of today. Remembering to continue in God's Word, let us hope for a future free of fear, filled with peace.

Submitted by SusanAnderson

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

~Ephesians 4:32

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

I'm on Facebook. I do not comment often, unless it is to wish someone a “Happy Birthday”. I see recipes and gardening tips, anniversary announcements and pictures of baptisms. I also see people I know and love posting polarizing memes that demonize those with whom they disagree. And I suspect the post that was shared can trace its origin to those countries most interested in sowing seeds of discord and division in our country.



It is concerning, especially as we journey towards our November elections and all that is at stake in our votes.

I do not write to tell you how to vote. That is not the way of the ELCA Lutheran Christian. I *do* write to encourage you to be mindful of how you engage in conversation and discernment leading up to this year's election. There are people in your congregation who love you and who disagree with you. Will you demonize them? Will you lump them in with those you deem to be unworthy? Or will you extend grace, be kind, and forgive them for not agreeing with you?

Abraham Lincoln, who shepherded the United States through the Civil War, stated, “America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.”

I hope and pray that as tensions rise, as political lines are drawn, as alliances are declared, that our communities of faith will remain places of civil discourse, open conversation, and unified in our commitment to



proclaim Christ and work for his mission.

We are first and foremost citizens of the kingdom of God – not Republicans, not Democrats, not Independents. The lens we apply to politics is that of the open tomb, to weigh and assess the policies and positions of candidates based on how well they align with the priorities and example of Jesus. This, of course, is not so easily done. But the task becomes easier if we

Continued on page 15...



8/7	Thomas & Rae Anne Cheslock
8/10	Travis & Shauna Drossart
8/17	Bob & Katelyn Williams
8/18	Bruce & Linda Gary
8/23	Lois & Robert Wallace
8/24	Cory & Christy Dellenbach
8/25	Cal & Romy Ewert
8/25	Kris & Marlin White
8/26	Pam & Keith Snyder
8/31	Dave & Lisa Kroll



8/1	Sue Larsen
8/2	Jeremiah Bellow
8/11	Devon Vanden Heuvel
8/15	Steve Scholtes
8/16	Joanne O'Brien
8/20	Jennifer Peterson
8/21	Joseph Schmitz
8/26	Alan Higgins
8/31	Gloria Moore

*May Your Day Be Special!*

If you were omitted or listed in error, please contact the church office at 715-362-5910. Thank you!



# NATH - Frederick Place

Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing

"I was a stranger and you invited me in..." – Matthew 25:35 NIV

NATH is committed to ending and preventing homelessness. This corporation exists to provide safe housing and basic needs to families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

## NATH MEALS

Our ministry groups have been providing the monthly NATH (Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing) meals and this has been working well.

Please consider signing your group up to provide a meal in 2024!

To volunteer, please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex or you can call Sue Larsen at 715-362-2544.

Thank you for your cooperation in this ministry!

### NAMI Northern Lakes

NAMI Northern Lakes is a group of Northwoods volunteers that provides support, education and advocacy in Forest, Vilas and Oneida Counties, on behalf of individuals and families affected by mental illness. All NAMI programs are free. Donations are welcome.

*Don't suffer in silence. We can help each other, with compassion and knowledge.*

**24/7 Free Crisis Counselors**

Text "HOPELINE" to 741741

**A Kind Voice**

1-800-876-2399

10 am to 11 pm every day.

**Iris Place**

1-920-815-3217

24/7

**Mental Health Crisis Line**

988

**Warm Line**

1-414-777-4729

7 pm to 11 pm Wed.-Mon.

**Solstice Warm Line**

1-608-244-5077

24/7



National Alliance on Mental Illness

# August 2024

Immanuel Lutheran Church 715-362-5910  
21 W Timber Drive, Rhinelander

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				OFFICE HOURS MAY VARY TODAY DUE TO SECRETARY VACATION AND JOANNE BARRIX'S AVAILABILITY		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
OUTDOOR WORSHIP / COMMUNION AND PICNIC AT HODAG PARK AT 10AM  WORSHIP LEADER: REV. JIM DUEHRING	7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon	PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10:00 am—NOON  8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group	1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting		8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  7:00 pm AA	8:45 am— 11:30 am Food Pantry
<b>OFFICE HOURS MAY VARY ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY DUE TO SECRETARY VACATION AND JOANNE BARRIX'S AVAILABILITY</b>						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 am Worship  Worship Leader: Matthew Johnson	7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Newsletter Articles Due!!!</div>	OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON  10:00 am PASTOR JOHN Milestone Nursing Home Service  8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  5:00 pm Stewardship	1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting  10:00 am WELCA Bible Study (2nd Wednesday of the month)  6:00 pm Council	OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON	8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  7:00 pm AA	THE TUESDAY MORNING CREW MEETS EVERY TUESDAY TO DO ODD JOBS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH. PLEASE REACH OUT TO JOHN PLAUTZ IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP! 715-367-3762 jeplautz@hotmail.com
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 am Worship Communion  Worship Leader: Rev. John Kuziej	7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon	PASTOR JOHN OFFICE HOURS 10:00 am—NOON  8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  6:00 pm Women's Bible Study & Dinner Call Sheree for location 715-360-3176	1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting		8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  7:00 pm AA	
<b>OFFICE HOURS MAY VARY ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY DUE TO SECRETARY VACATION AND JOANNE BARRIX'S AVAILABILITY</b>						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 am Worship  Worship Leader: Rev. John Kuziej	7:00 pm AA & Al-Anon	OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON  10:00 am PASTOR JOHN Rennes Nursing Home Service  8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group	1:00 pm— 3:00 pm Quilting  4:30 pm Meal @ Frederick Place	OFFICE HOURS 9:00 am—NOON	8:45—10:45 am Closed Support Group  7:00 pm AA	

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

June 2024

## GENERAL FUND:

Beginning Balance (Adj. \$5)	\$101,979.33
Offerings	
\$1,197.10 is moved to Building Fund	\$ 10,233.70
Expenses	(\$ 68,223.62)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 43,989.41</b>

## BENEVOLENCE:

June Offering	\$ 817.29
2024 Pledge	\$19,000.00
YTD Remittance	\$ 9,059.05

## BUILDING FUND:

Beginning Balance	\$41,257.19
Offerings	\$ 1,197.10
Expenses	(\$ 812.21)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$41,642.08</b>

The EXPENSES exceeded the INCOME by \$58,989.92 this month BECAUSE OF \$60,000 CD.

## Donate your old eyeglasses, sunglasses and more!



“I was listening to a news report about a great need in poor countries. People need glasses, and the story was about the reading glasses that you can buy cheaply in the drug store. The story told about a woman from Bangladesh who raised cattle. She was enabled to increase her income when she got a pair of reading glasses. She was able to plant crops for the market. She could see what she was doing when she weeded her garden plots. She was able to see the seeds and keep them straight. And the improved vision helped her with record keeping.”

Immanuel has decided to do an eyeglasses, sunglasses, cellphone, hearing aids and tablets ministry. Please drop off any of these items in the Lion's containers as provided.

Thank you for this consideration.  
Any questions please contact Dianne Syms.

Continued from page 12....

consider what is important with others, in our community of faith, employing conversation, prayer, and debate that allows for mutual respect in the midst of varying perspectives.

I encourage you to be careful of what you post and find out first:

- Is it true? Check the news source.
- Who generated the post? Do not be an unwitting accomplice to outside influencers.
- Does it further the conversation? Or simply drop an emotional zinger meant to inflame and increase anxiety.



Keep in mind that conversation around such important and complicated subjects is best held in person. Social media provides a distance that reduces meaningful discussion to soundbites and allows people to be their worst selves. Do not be your worst self. It is at

times such as this that the Church and your church can be a place of not just civility, but of safety and hope. Whatever the election results, whatever the reaction to those results, we, the body of Christ, will continue to be united in ministry for the sake of the one who died and rose to save... even those who nailed him to the cross. By the grace of God, our forgiveness will be just as inclusive and will bear witness to the power of Christ to heal, to reconcile, and to find a way forward...together.

Yours in Christ,  
Bishop Katherine Finegan

## IMMANUEL'S MESSENGER

21 West Timber Drive  
Rhineland, WI 54501

Electronic Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Rhineland, WI  
PERMIT NO. 194

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# Join us for in-person worship Sundays at 9:00 am or join online. All Are Welcome!

1) Through YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYfWH9caWNuzOxf9T9JgecQ>  
(or search Immanuel Rhineland) on YouTube.

2) Through our website:

[www.immanuelrhineland.org/worship](http://www.immanuelrhineland.org/worship)  
(you'll also find the bulletin and lessons here).

3) Through our phone app.

Just click on the "worship" button at the bottom of the screen.

**The live stream will begin at about 8:55 am.**