

# Immanuel News

FEBRUARY 2025



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**Our Mission:** Immanuel Lutheran Church is a fellowship of believers committed to live and share God's love by serving our community and the world.

**Our Vision:** We gather as believers who seek to grow in faith through worship, education, and welcoming fellowship. We seek to share God's love with the community through word and deed. We extend Christ's love in service to our community and our world.

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## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY 2025***

Dear Fellow Disciples of Christ:

This month, I am sharing a devotional from Christ In Our Home, Saturday, February 1

***Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18***

***“I know how you feel”  
He is able to help those who are being tested. (v. 18)***

Has anyone ever said, “I know how you feel” and tempted you to respond, “No, really, you don't”? While no one can know or understand exactly how we feel, empathy is important as we care for and walk with one another during times of suffering. Empathy is not feeling what another person is feeling. It is about carefully listening to another person express their feelings. It is not about telling a

story about a time we went through a similar experience. It's about really hearing the story they are telling us.

But though we cannot ever completely know how someone is feeling, there is one who can. Jesus, being fully human, fully understands us at the deepest level. Jesus has experienced all our mortality, our grief, and our suffering. Because of that, Jesus can comfort and encourage us when we are facing life's tests. In our times of prayer, in word and sacrament, and through the empathy of others, Jesus is present with us and for us.

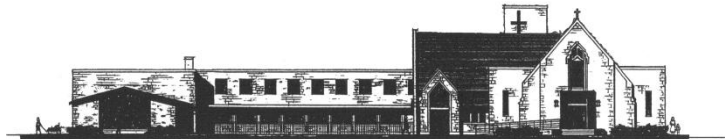
***Compassionate God, give me the empathy to listen with care, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.***

*Gaede, Beth Ann. Christ in Our Home: Jan-Mar 2025. Fortress Press, 2025.*

***Yours in Christ,  
Bob Henning, President***

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## **ILC History Hub IMMANUEL HISTORY**



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### **CLERICAL VESTMENT TRENDS REFLECTED IN IMMANUEL'S CLERGY**

Most Lutherans today expect that their pastor will be wearing a robe when conducting a church service. Among Norwegian Lutheran immigrant churches this practice was not always followed. Many of the first immigrants were followers of Hans Nielsen Hauge who in the late 18th and early 19th century challenged the state church of Norway and was even jailed for his views. He led the Norwegian pietism movement and believed that the laity should have more power. Many Norwegian immigrants formed congregations that reflected his views and were loosely formed into what became the Haugean Synod. The pastors of this synod typically did not wear robes when conducting worship

services because doing so seemed to be too much like the pastors in Norway whose robe display during worship seemed to denote a superiority of the clergy over the laity. Later this practice was followed by the Lutheran Free Church and, to some extent, by the Lutheran Brethren congregations. The majority of Norwegian Lutheran congregations expected their pastors to wear clerical robes, as was the practice in Norway. Immanuel was part of this tradition.

Many of the 19th century pastors who served Immanuel wore the clerical ruff collar. It was known for its many folds and can be seen in some of the formal photos of our first pastors in the hallway photo display of our many pastors. Washing and ironing these ruffs, heavily starched, was a time-consuming chore, usually done by the pastor's wife. These ruffs were the style of both men and women of the upper classes in the late 16th century. Lutheran pastors continued this style in the centuries after until about 1900 when the common clerical collar of today indicating clergy status replaced it.

The Lutheran pastors, from the time of the Reformation, continued the Roman Catholic practice of wearing a full body black cassock. This practice continued in the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America until the 1940s when a less lengthy white surplice was worn over the black cassock. Pastor Quello was the first to make this change at Immanuel. The use of a white surplice over a black robe was continued into the 1970s when Pastor Melby adopted the alb, a white clerical robe that is accompanied by a fairly lengthy rope belt. The style of the alb gives the appearance of an historical monk's robe. No longer was a surplice over a black robe considered necessary. These changes in clerical vestments were part of a Liturgical Movement that started in the late 1930s. Chasubles (stoles) also became more colorful and artistic with Christian symbols imprinted on them. More recently it has become more acceptable to wear a robe of color, not necessarily in the style of the alb. Pastor Sarras often wore a red robe of this genre, for example. View the confirmation photos in the north hallway. The pastors in robes are usually included in these photos, and the vestment trends are quite noticeable.

-- Al Solomonson



**Thank you for your regular offerings.** Donations support our regular ministry and mission. This makes a difference in the lives of many who are touched by our ministry every day. Your gifts also are an expression of your faith and an offering of thanksgiving to God.

*There are several ways to make a gift:*

- ✓ Mail a check to 630 Adams St. Wausau, WI 54403.
- ✓ Place your offering in the offering plate before worship service.
- ✓ You can leave your offering in the safe box at the entry door of the church parking lot.
- ✓ Use your bank's online bill pay service to send a contribution - this is usually free, and you don't need to pay for postage.



## **Mark Your Calendars!**

**A Special Invitation.** On February 8, 2025, the Wisconsin River Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will host a Wausau Organ Crawl. During this event participants will get the opportunity to not only see three different pipe organs, but also to try out the various instruments. The schedule is listed below:

- 9:00am St Mary's Oratory, 408 Seymour, Wausau (donuts will be served!)
- 10:00am – St Peter's Lutheran (formerly Salem), 2822 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Wausau
- 11:00am - St Paul's UCC, 426 Washington Street, Wausau (a light lunch will be provided)

The Wisconsin River Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present a series of Lenten Meditations. These 30 minute recitals, presented by area organists, will be held from 12:15pm-12:45pm at St John the Baptist Episcopal Church, 330 McClellan Street, Wausau, WI, on the following Fridays:

- March 14 – Jim Holt, Patrick Burkhart, Isaac Tritz
- March 21 – George Felty
- March 28 – Lee Riecki
- April 4 – Bryan-Higgins-Moe
- April 11 – Irene Beethe

The church is handicapped accessible. A free-will donation will be received. You are invited to come for a time of meditation and music during the lunch hour.

**GriefShare.** When a loved one dies, it can feel like you're alone. At GriefShare, you'll find a safe, comforting place where you can talk with others about your grief. You'll find support, direction, and guidance on how to make it through. How do I join a group? Here is the church and meeting information:

**When:** Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm, February 3-April 28

**Where:** St Stephen Lutheran Church, Conference Room, 512 McClellan St., Wausau, WI

**Contact:** Shirley Ostrem, Lay Facilitator, (715) 359-5531

**Register Online:** [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup)

**AARP Volunteer Tax Aide Program.** The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Foundation & the IRS sponsor the Tax-Aide program. IRS tax law-certified volunteers will prepare federal, Wisconsin, & Homestead Credit tax returns. The free service is open to anyone, with special consideration given to individuals w/low & moderate income & those aged 50 & over. If you live in Marathon County, please call (715) 298-5734 starting January 21, 2025, for additional information.

## **Food Pantry Donations**

**The Neighbors' Place welcomes donations for their food pantry. They are especially in need of toilet paper, shampoo, lotion, laundry soap, dish soap, juice, beef stew, mayo, cookies, canned fruit, and sugar.** If you would like to donate non-perishable foods or basic supplies, you may place them on the black cart next to the pew near the Gathering Room and they will be delivered to the

Neighbors' Place.

**The Men's Discussion Group** meets Thursdays at 7:30 am, in the Koinonia room. New participants are always welcome.

**Strong Bones Senior Exercise Group** meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the old Nursery at 10:30 am. The class is open to anyone wishing to improve balance and maintain strength to prevent falls. New faces are happily welcome.

**Volunteer Needed.** Please contact Jackie in the Church Office if you are available to volunteer to oversee and be a resource person for the Life Screening event on February 25, 2025. Please see the ad on the last page. I do have a voucher for a free screening.



The following individuals are celebrating their birthday! Brittney Riehle (02/02), Art Dellenbach (02/05), Annabelle Kurth (02/10), Wayne Kallio (02/14), Brandon Wierzba (02/14), Jim Stolen (02/16), Franklin Lewitzke (02/18), Serenity Hulstrom (02/21), Kristen Hulstrom (02/22), Nancy Helling (02/25), Carolyn Viergutz (02/25)

*Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Pastor Elijah Lekwate. Email for Justice Pule: pulejustice74@gmail.com*

**Immanuel Lutheran Church  
2024 Income vs Expenses**

Month	Income Received	Expenses Paid	Notes	Difference	Spec Funds income	Total Deposit
January	\$12,713	\$12,602		\$110.78	\$76.54	\$12,789.54
February	\$10,764	\$8,031		\$2,733.44	\$605	\$11,369.33
March	\$10,814	\$6,426		\$4,388.38	\$132.00	\$10,946.00
April	\$12,965	\$7,730		\$5,234.71	\$1,556.00	\$14,521.00
May	\$8,092	\$8,168		(\$76.17)	\$97.00	\$8,189.00
June	\$11,171	\$4,075		\$7,096.50	\$194.00	\$11,365.00
July	\$11,303	\$5,946		\$5,357.06	\$1,424.00	\$12,727.00
August	\$9,743	\$8,720		\$1,022.84	\$43.00	\$9,786.00
September	\$16,968	\$3,399		\$13,569.07	\$856.00	\$17,823.61
October	\$9,434	\$8,864		\$569.69	\$170.00	\$9,604.00
November	\$20,273	\$8,395		\$11,877.96	\$1,520.00	\$21,792.70
December	\$14,062	\$6,947		\$7,114.90	\$876.00	\$14,938.29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$148,301.93</b>	<b>\$89,302.77</b>		<b>\$58,999.16</b>	<b>\$7,549.54</b>	<b>\$155,851.47</b>

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting - November 19, 2024**

Members Present: President - Bob Henning, Treasurer – Matt Munson, Financial Secretary - Patti Busche, Properties – Dan Westaby, Worship - Holly Westaby, Social Concerns – Kathy Knox, Stewardship – Rick Lohr

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Devotions: led by Holly – Being Thankful – Focus on what you have instead of what you lack

Church Officers Reports:

Secretary Report: Reviewed minutes from meeting on 10/27/24. Motion to approve made by Rick; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt. Motion carried

Treasurer Report: Reviewed reports from 9/30/24 and 10/31/24. Motion to approve made by Patti; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary: Reviewed October report. Motion to approve made by Matt; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy. Motion carried.

Vice President Report- position open

President – 2 realtors are being contacted to take a look at what the building/land might be worth on the open market.

Committee Reports:

Education: No report

Properties Report:

1. Stuart Roofing has been contacted about roof repair. Too late in year to do anything so will review in spring.
2. Contacted City Hall about elevator oil use to find out if it can be tested. They provided number of State Elevator inspector.
3. Carpet cleaning estimate received for Fellowship Hall and Gathering Room. Going with lower estimate \$783 with Carpet & Steam (?).
4. Salt, sand and shovels have been put out by all the exit doors.

Social Concerns: St. Stephen's pick up the coats/clothes for donation to the school districts.

Stewardship: 27 pledge cards returned for pledges of \$75,500. This is down from last year.

#### Worship Report:

1. Will decorate for Christmas after 11/24 service with pizza to follow.
2. Carols & Candles services will be on 12/22.
3. Kathy Robinson will be gone the first 3 weeks in January.

#### Unfinished Business:

1. Kathy Robinson has not returned a signed contract yet. Chances of her being approved for SAM are slim.
2. Scholarship fund: what needs to be done to open up the funds for outside of Immanuel? Bob will contact Kari Solomonson (scholarship chair). Perhaps the Immanuel scholarship can be opened up to a Seminary college or local schools.

#### New Business:

1. Congregational Energy Audit responses have been received. Bob will be doing an analysis and will present to the Council before presenting at a future coffee hour.
2. Budget: Reviewed 2024 budget and recommended changes for 2025. Matt will create new budget and present to Council for approval.
3. Church Seasonal Offering disbursement: Bridge Street Mission \$250; Salvation Army \$250; Women's Community \$250. Motion made by Patti and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Holly. Motion approved.

Round Table: next semi-annual meeting has been set for January 26 at 9:15.

Next council meeting – Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:10 p.m.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Busche, Financial Secretary



# Serving us in February 2025

Pastor Tryphine and Kathy Robinson

February 2025 Worship Servers					
Worship Leader					
DATE	PIANIST / ORGANIST	READER	USHER / GREETERS	VIDEO TAPER	COMMUNION
2/2/2025	Delores Kessel	Al Solomonson	Bruce Knox	Bob Henning	Joanne Diestelhorst
2/9/2025	Karen Zuidema	Adam Doede	Bob Doede	Bob Henning	
2/16/2025	Delores Kessel	Patti Bricko	Vern Diestelhorse	Bob Henning	
2/23/2025	Karen Zuidema	Sue Schwede	Mike Schwede	Bob Henning	
Altar Guild: Kathy Knox, Joanne Distelhorst, and Pattie Bricko					

**Recipe of the Month submitted by Jane Reilly-Smith.**

## Marble Mallow Bars

**Ingredients:** 1 cup margarine (scant)  
2/3 cup brown sugar, packed  
1 teasp. vanilla  
2 cups flour  
3 cups miniature marshmallows  
16 ozs. package semi-sweet chocolate pieces  
3 tablespoons butter  
1 tablespoon water

Cream margarine, sugar and vanilla. Add flour. Mix well. Spread in greased pan. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes. Sprinkle top with marshmallows and bake 5 minutes. Melt chocolate chips and 3 tablespoons butter in a double boiler. Add water, stir until smooth. Drizzle over the marshmallow layers.

*Psalm 71:9 "Do not cast me off in the time of old"*

**Facility**

**Riverview Towers, 500**  
Grand Ave., Wausau,  
WI 54403

▶ **Jeff Groethe**

**Forest Park Village,**  
2901 N. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Street#W503  
Wausau, WI  
(715) 675-3986

▶ **Joan Bonstead**

**Rennes Health &  
Rehab Center -  
Weston**

4810 Barbican Ave,  
#601  
Weston, WI 54476  
(715) 393-0400

▶ **Mrs. Leora Mitchell**

**Home**

▶ **Mrs. Mary Anne  
Klinker**  
1402 W Knox St  
Wausau WI 54401  
(715) 298-4313

**Bell Tower Residence,**  
1500 O'Day St, Merrill,  
WI 54452 (715) 359-  
0197  
▶ **Carol Hettinga, Rm**  
307

**Mt. View Care Center  
of Wausau, 2400**  
Marshall Street,  
Wausau, WI 54403  
**715-848-4300**  
**Judy Blanchfield,**  
#4007

**Primrose Retirement  
Community**  
2100 Townline Rd,  
Wausau, WI 54403:  
▶ **Thelma Bursik, Apt**  
#101  
(715) 297-1785  
▶ **Faye Schwarm Apt**  
#133  
(715) 842-7553

**Home**

▶ **Ann Kurth**  
2806 Polzer Drive  
Wausau, WI 54401  
(715) 298-1942

▶ **Jeanette Petterson**  
605 Eagle Nest Blvd.  
Apt. 208  
Rothschild, WI 54474  
(715) 359-0449

▶ **Carolyn Viergutz**  
Fairway Knoll  
N112 W17500 Mequon  
Rd  
Germantown, WI 53022

☞ Here are our church friends who are not able to come to church as often as they would like. They would love to hear from you or receive cards in the mail. Please call the church office if someone should be added to list. ☎



## You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church  
607 Adams Street

When: February 25th, 2025



Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

*Trusted by over 10 million customers.*

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

### Who should attend:

Anyone over the **age of 40**

### Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

### 4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **888-814-0466** and use promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://llsa.social/hscapromo)



Text the word **"circle"** to **216-279-1607**

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

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