

Immanuel Lutheran Church
600 4th Street SW
PO Box 98
Crosby MN 56441

Return Service Requested

Phone: 218-546-6010
E-mail: office@immanuelcrosby.org
www.immanuelcrosby.org



**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES**
2pm, 4pm & 8pm



NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CROSBY, MN
PERMIT No. 35

December 2021

Volume 35, Issue 12



Worship & Scripture	2
Prayer Shawl Malawi Letter	3
Youth	4
Sunday School Pastor/Jill Appreciation Thank you Note	5
Church Bazaar Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries	6 & 7
Monthly Calendar Worship Ser- vice Schedule Council Minutes	Inserts
Memorials & Honorariums	8
Mission Attendance	9
Pastor's Perspective	10
Donations Financials	11
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services	12

Immanuel's Story

... in Prayer Ministry



In Prayer Ministry

According to the newly released 2021 Pastoral Mental Health Report, there are some alarming statistics regarding our pastors. 2020 was a difficult year for many people, but it especially took its toll on pastors. Approximately 35% of pastors reported feeling burned out. 45% of the respondents indicated pastoral care was draining to them. More than 1 in 10 pastors reported contemplating suicide in the past year.

On the positive side, 62% said they had a network of pastors that they can ask for support, and 82% said they had friends they can confide in when going through hardships. This highlights the need to pray for our pastors on a regular basis and support him and his family as he seeks to lead the congregation placed in his care.

Submitted by Mike Patrick



.... in Scripture & Study for Worship



Sunday December 5, 2021

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 3:1-6

Sunday December 12, 2021

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Luke 3:7-18

Sunday December 19, 2021

Micah 5:2-5a



Friday December 24, 2021

Psalm 96

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

Sunday December 26, 2021

Psalm 148

Luke 2:41-52

We all make mistakes

If you are a regular reader of this page, you may think I am perfect.

But alas, I am mortal with all of the foibles that come with the position.

Last month, as some of you may have noticed. I added another chapter to the book of Luke.

And as is usual, I noticed it after everything had been published.

So, in my own fashion, I decided to write the 25th chapter as a reminder to double check the double checks.

It reads as such.

LUKE 25

***“If thou wouldst pay attention, thou wouldst realize
That there are only 24 chapters to make you wise.
But, fear not! The Lord understands.
He gave you fat fingers on your two hands.”***



God's grace is given to us not because we deserve it. It is given as a part of God's desire for us to be in communion with Him. He does it because He love us.

We as a race, from Adam on down, could never “get it right.”

We tell God what we want, rarely do we ask “Lord, what do you want?”

We pray that God forgives our sins and then go out and commit more and greater ones.

We use the Bible, in context, to validate our positions.

We emphasize our wins and try to keep our losses in the shadows.

But, we know where they are and so does God. And yet, he tells us that we are loved and forgiven and to “go and sin no more” knowing we will.

So, thank God for your blessings, thank Him for his mercies.

And thank Him for all the times that He smiles on his wayward children.

Especially the ones with fat fingers.

Blessings,

Karlin

.... in Donations

When considering Memorial/Honorarium Donations, please prioritize these ministries and needs:

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN & YOUTH MILESTONE MINISTRIES GENERAL ACCOUNT

Milestone Ministries, Scholarship Fund is a sub account of the Memorial Savings Account. Milestone Ministries is used to support all Baptisms, First Bibles, First Communion, Confirmation & Graduation expenses.

For a complete list of ministries, please contact the church office.

A huge thank you to all who support these important ministries!

BUILDING FUNDS

FINANCIAL REPORT

Major Capital Improvement Fund

Balance: 10/1/2021 \$119,239.00

Current Deposits

\$1,465.18

Current Withdrawals

\$7,027.65

Balance: 10/30/21

\$113,676.53

Our Expense Reimbursement Policy was recently approved and does have time limits, however, if anyone still has reimbursements they have not turned in for 2021, we will accept them along with the completed form & all receipts are attached and must be turned in to the Office by December 5th, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Eatros, Financial Treasurer.

General Operating Budget Report

	OCT-2021	OCT-2020	YTD thru 2021	YTD thru 2020
Budget*	30,848	30,006	308,983	310,616
General Fund Giving	27,451	23,910	316,249	296,957
General Fund Expense	32,292	31,024	315,362	304,100
Net Income	-4,841	-7,114	887	-7,143

Thank you for your faithful giving!

... in Pastor's Perspective



Pastor Paul J. Mattson
218.546.6010
pauljm@immanuelcrosby.org

Going through my "Christmas" files the other day, I came upon these lyrics from the song "Cry of a Tiny Babe" by Bruce Cockburn on the CD "Nothing but a Burning Light." I think it speaks well of the coming weeks, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, and all that He came to do.

Please read carefully and prayerfully:

*Mary grows a child without the help of a man
Joseph get upset because he doesn't understand
Angel comes to Joseph in a powerful dream
Says "God did this and you're part of his scheme"
Joseph comes to Mary with his hat in his hand
Says "forgive me I thought you'd been with some other man"
She says "what if I had been - but I wasn't anyway and guess what?
I felt the baby kick today"*

***Like a stone on the surface of a still river
Driving the ripples on forever
Redemption rips through the surface of time
In the cry of a tiny babe***

*The child is born in the fullness of time
Three wise astrologers take note of the signs
Come to pay their respects to the fragile little king
Get pretty close to wrecking everything
'Cause the governing body of the whole [Holy] land
Is that of Herod, a paranoid man
Who when he hears there's a baby born King of the Jews
Sends death squads to kill all male children under two
But that same bright angel warns the parents in a dream
And they head out for the border and get away clean*

*There are others who know about this miracle birth
The humblest of people catch a glimpse of their worth
For it isn't to the palace that the Christ child comes
But to shepherds and street people, hookers and bums
And the message is clear if you've got [you have] ears to hear
That forgiveness is given for your guilt and your fear
It's a Christmas gift [that] you don't have to buy
There's a future shining in a baby's eyes*

***Like a stone on the surface of a still river
Driving the ripples on forever
Redemption rips through the surface of time
In the cry of a tiny babe***

Advent and Christmas blessings to you and yours – Pastor Paul



.. in Prayer Shawl Ministry

A Prayer Shawl is meant to be given to anyone (male or female, including children) who has had surgery, been diagnosed with an illness, lost a loved one or is dealing with a hardship.

Prayers are said while the shawl is being made, that recipients may feel comfort and love as they wrap themselves in it. Shawls are available in the Fellowship Hall in the far right hand corner on the cabinet shelves. Please be sure to check/sign the book saying to whom you are giving a shawl because we don't want to duplicate. Please let me know of anyone you believe should receive one of these Prayer Shawls.

Thank you, and if any questions, please feel free to call or contact me at 218-546-6065 or by email mmmlarson49@gmail.com.

Marsha Larson



.. in Malawi (letter from Andy Jones)

Dear friend of Malawi,

Thank you for expressing interest over the years in being a part of a short-term mission trip to Malawi with Malawi Orphan Care Project, Inc. Since beginning our relationship with Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries in 2005, we have organized and led more than a dozen teams on trips to Malawi. Because of the global Covid-19 pandemic, sadly no mission teams have traveled to Malawi since 2019. The people of Kanenyeva in Malawi are very excited to be able to welcome their American friends once again, and to extend to them a very special Malawian hospitality.

We invite you to join us in praying about your possible involvement in a mission trip to Malawi in 2022 or beyond. Teams can travel at any time during the year, depending upon when the team participants are available for travel. Our partners have shared that May through August is the best time of year for them, which often works well for us. Teams in the past have led VBS type programs and sports camps, discipling for teens, roofed houses, and focused on literacy and education. Our partners continue to express distinct interest in a MEDICAL trip. In what way is God leading you?

Please pray about this opportunity and let us know of your interest by December 5th. After we hear from those who feel called to explore a trip, in early December we will schedule a time for a Zoom conversation to discuss what is involved in a mission trip to Malawi with MOCP, answer questions and explain the discernment process. A commitment to join a team is not needed until early 2022. Please be praying about your involvement until that time!

If you have any questions, please contact us. And please distribute this invitation to anyone else you know who might have an interest!

Thank you and may God bless your journey.

Andy Jones , Mission Trip Coordinator, ajones@popstjoe.com

Malawi Orphan Care Project, www.malawiorphanproject.org

... in Youth Ministry

Welcome to a New Season Kingdom Families!!

Autumn is usually synonymous with decay and saying goodbye to summer. This year let's look at it with the renewing of our minds!

With the youth group, over the past few months, I have been trying to get them to remember the:

Armor of God

- The belt of truth
- Breastplate of righteousness
- Helmet of salvation
- Shield of faith
- Sword of the Spirit
- And shoes fitted with peace for sharing the message of the gospel

Then we are called to stand firm in our faith and pray (best wireless connection ever!)

With the knowledge, study and implementation of these few items we have the greatest chance of living a full abundant life in the Lord!

All of this is found in the amazing letter from Paul to the Ephesians. There is also where we will find WHO we are and WHOSE we are in Christ Jesus. So, why share all this in the youth ministry section? Because we have all been a youth!

Wouldn't it be great if we could meet our youth at Immanuel within the renewal of the mind we are called to have?! The world has had enough "Battlefield of the Mind." Let's see: Thy Kingdom Come Thy Will Be Done In Earth As It Is In Heaven!

Let me know what the Holy Spirit has put in your heart and let's see what the Lord has in store for us, whom he loves.

Upcoming:

- 1 & 3 Wednesdays confirmation
- 2 & 4 Wednesdays youth group
- Doors open at 5:00pm - conclude at 8:00
- Dinner served promptly at 6:00 w/prayer

God bless, Faithfully, Miss Tammy

Ephesians 6:18- 20-And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. **19** Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, **20** for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.



Our MISSION:

To be a community of Christians
 who welcome all people to GATHER in worship,
 to GROW in God's Word and Grace,
 and to GO forward in faith
 to serve others in Jesus' name.

... in Attendance

Sunday, October 24, 2021

9:00am	97	
10:30am	<u>30</u>	
Total		127

Sunday, October 31, 2021

9:00am	102	
10:30am	<u>49</u>	
Total		151

October 2021 Total

685

Sunday, November 7, 2021

9:00am	108	
10:30am	<u>70</u>	
Total		178

Sunday, November 14, 2021

9:00am	75	
10:30am	<u>47</u>	
Total		122

November 2021 Total-to-Date

300



.... in Memorials & Honorariums Given In October & November:

For the Malawi Fund:

In memory of Don Carlson by Arnold & Sylvia Graff (omitted earlier)
From the Elynn Niles Estate

For the Livestream Fund

In memory of Steve Orn by Denny & LuAnn Henrichs

For Milestone Ministry

In memory of Abe Abelson from Bob & Joyce Kallestad

Undesignated

In memory of Jackie Holmvg by Julie Mohs
In memory of Jackie Holmvg by Jason & Jessica Jones

Total: \$59,026



Gift of
Tribute



**Attention
Snowbirds!**
Before you leave,
remember to leave your
winter address, etc.
with Brenda H.
in the church office.

.... in Sunday School

Sunday School meets on Sundays at 10:40am following Children's Time in the 10:30 worship service.

The annual children's Christmas program will be held Sunday, December 12th during the 10:30 worship service. The children are currently learning the songs and practicing for the program during their Sunday School time.

There will be a dress rehearsal for the program on Saturday, December 11th. The directors of the program plan to keep this practice to an hour or less because it is a busy time for everyone.

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, November 28th for Thanksgiving break.

Pastor & Jill

Appreciation!

**Thank you for all you
do for us!**



THANK YOU THANK YOU!

Thank you to Ade & Jean Olson for the generous donation of First Class stamps for the office, it's appreciated!

.... in Spirit of Christmas Bazaar

The annual Spirit of Christmas Bazaar was held on November 13th. The fellowship hall was turned into a beautiful boutique for the day and shoppers came and purchased many items made by Immanuel members. We do not have any totals of sales at this time but we do know that the sales were good.

A special area this year at the bazaar was the Minnesota area. Each item in this area was related to Minnesota from pillows to photos to crafts to an apron with the Minnesota emblem on it.

Karen DeBoer and Nancy Nyvold were the co-chairs for the bazaar this year. This is a big job and very time consuming. They did an amazing job! Please thank them when you see them.

There are many people involved in making this bazaar a success. Please consider helping with this in the future. "Many hands makes light work."

This bazaar is an important part of Immanuel's mission. The funds raised by this event help support local and global missions. To see the recipients of funds in 2019 go to <https://immanuelcrosby.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Womens-Donations-2019.pdf>

The raffle was very successful bringing in \$1,500 for five items. Winners were:

- Minnesota quilt, queen size, from the ILC Quilters-**Judy Kirchoff**
- Scandinavian tine box (bentwood), from Jeff Olson-**Ade Olson**
- Tabletop shuffle board game, maple & cherry, from Randy Evans-**Bruce West**
- Small wool Christmas tree with applique skirt, from Nancy Evans-**Ruth Hook**
- Charcuterie board from Sharon Simons-**Becky Pakarinen**



Wreathes were made on Sunday, November 7, at 1:00 at Jean and Ade Olson's heated garage. These wreathes sold immediately. They are always some of the most popular items at the bazaar and it is a fun time with many hands creating our beautiful fresh wreathes. Please consider helping with this next year.

Confections for the bazaar were made at the church on Monday, November 8th. These are packaged very attractively and are always a big seller at the bazaar.

The remaining items from the bazaar are still for sale in the fellowship hall. There are still many great items. Stop in and check out them out.



.... in Special Milestones!

December Birthdays

- 12/01 Alexis Holmvig
- 12/02 James Walth, Loretta Habighorst
- 12/03 Pamela Ballard, Henry Stawarski
- 12/04 Jessica Klopfleisch, Isabel McWilliams
- 12/06 Paul Strom
- 12/09 Kirsten Nixon, Chase Laffin, Charles Frahm
- 12/10 Sandy Johnson, Fred Fox
- 12/11 James Hoyt
- 12/12 Christine Rudek, Gene Lofquist
- 12/13 Dick Gunter
- 12/14 Marie Futhey, Sally Oren, Bill Langton
- 12/15 Barbara Crooks, Tom Thiesfeld
- 12/16 Ethan Lofquist, Grace Leyk, Tom Nixon
- 12/17 Mary Aulie, Genevieve Souhrada, Bill Langton
- 12/18 Christopher Klopfleisch, Eileen Patrick, Evan English
- 12/19 Chelsea Holmvig, Jeremy Houck
- 12/21 LeRoy Habighorst, Haley Lubovich
- 12/22 Sharon Bonsante
- 12/24 Constance Kliever
- 12/25 Jesus Christ, Jessica Dwyer,
- 12/26 Holly Hunter, Paul Bushard
- 12/27 Terry Wickman, Cassandra Klopfleisch,
- 12/28 Barbara Risnes, Shasta Souhrada, Paula Traylor, Donna Peppel
- 12/29 Joy Anderson, Eli McWilliams
- 12/31 Hunter Van Horn



December
Wedding Anniversaries

Rich & Mary Aulie	12/11/2010
James & Erinn Hoyt	12/16/2012
Adrian & Jean Olson	12/26/1964
Casey & Jenni Kannel	12/27/2008
Jim & Judy Christenson	12/27/1981
Bradley & Jane Holmvig	12/28/1996
David & Claudia Peterson	12/31/1987

