



the 11:00 service is over (there is a voters meeting and potluck after the 11:00 service).
If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to a Stewardship Board member: *Kris Lym, Korey Zellars, Connie Grondahl, or Pastor Bernie.*



Confirmation Sunday

is slated for **11:00 on October 29, 2023**. Six young people make their confirmation vows: **Claire Patricia Carr, Carl James DeBoer, Milan Carl Gornowicz, Adam James**

Schaefer, Shea Andrew Tollefson, and Evan Gustaf Albert Woyen. (Another member of the class, **Peter Andrew Duncan**, was confirmed May 14th, before the family's move to Illinois.)



Time and Talent Fair 2023



Time & Talent Fair

The Time and Talent Fair is just around the corner! As our logo states, Immanuel is rooted in God's Word, growing in Christ's love, branching out to serve and bearing fruits of faith. This is a great place to showcase all the amazing 'branches'

of Immanuel Lutheran Church. We would love to see all boards, groups, committees of Immanuel represented at this event. We welcome table displays, posterboard displays, pamphlets, or someone present as a representative of that group. For the congregation as a whole, grab a cookie and come see all the wonderful ways which Immanuel branches out to serve. Hope to see everyone **November 19th between services** in the Celebration Center!!

Other details:

No Bible class on the 19th

There is no specific time for set up or table arrangement. We ask you are ready to go when the first service is over and pack up by the time



New Life Center serves men who are on the journey from homeless and hurting to whole and healthy by meeting basic needs and transforming lives through the love of Christ.

encouragement

MEN'S BREAKFAST

FOOD - FELLOWSHIP - THE WORD

Men need to be given opportunities to get to know one another and to grow in their faith through a variety of conversations and activities. They need to see that there are other Christian men who are excited about and committed to our Lord Jesus Christ. Our society does little to encourage men to "be there" for one another or to support and encourage each other. That's why we need to make some intentional efforts to provide an ongoing, Gospel-centered ministry to the men of our congregations.



November 18TH, 9AM-NOON
Grace Lutheran Church
821 5th Ave. S., Fargo
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Corey Isaak
701-281-0240 corey.isaak@gracefargo.org



1. *Promise Cards will be sent in a mailing in early November. The date of the Procession of the Promises is **November 19th**.*

2. *New boxes of giving envelopes will be available in late November. Most people will have the same numbers for 2024 as they did in 2023. **Contact the office ASAP if you wish to have physical envelopes but didn't this year (and vice versa).***

Thanksgiving Services:

(Same Service, Different Days):

Wed, Nov 22nd; 7 pm at Grace Luth. Church
Thu, Nov 23rd; 10 am here at Immanuel

After the Thanksgiving Day Service (11:30 am), if you wish to have a turkey meal *without having to cook*, consider enjoying a **FREE Thanksgiving meal**, prepared by Tim Tegtmeier & others **and served in the Celebration Center, or boxed** for you to eat at home. **Please RSVP** to the church office to reserve a place at the tables or the take-home boxes.



I remember the Abominable Snowman in *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*. He was the big white Yeti monster who had been pacified and finally was the only one tall enough to put the star on the top of the tree.

What a great honor it was to place that star for all to see!

The stars on top of Christmas trees are to draw us near to Christ. As the star led the wise men to the infant Jesus, so too we are drawn to see the savior of the world lying in such a humble estate. A tiny baby is the world's redeemer!

Did you know that there are many references to stars in the Bible? So too in our Advent and Christmas hymns! And we will be looking at four of them in detail. We will begin with the stars that God created and the complexity and density of the midnight sky. We will look up with Abraham to the



Sunday, Nov 5th – yes, we will be able to sleep a little longer by setting our clocks back one hour on Saturday night!

From the Board for Human Care

The Personal Care Drive has been extended!

We are taking part in Thrivent's Give Thanks Give Back event, to get the food pantry an extra \$500 from Thrivent. To receive these funds our drive **needs 500 items** to donate to the pantry. Please bring in all items by **November 9th**. An updated flyer with needed items can be seen at the display. Also, Immanuel had a week of volunteering at the Emergency Food Pantry from October 23rd -27th. We very much appreciate all who gave of their precious time to assist the needy of our community.

The Immanuel Image is edited by Parish Administrative Assistant, Louise M. Tegtmeier. Parish Workers Circle of Immanuel LWML assembles the newsletter, usually on the last Thursday of each month. Distribution to members & friends is sent monthly via USPS. Subscription changes: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1258 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102-2637; 701-293-7979; Immanuel.fargo@gmail.com. Website: www.immanuelfargo.org

From the Board of Trustees

1. Fall Clean-up is scheduled for **November 11, 2023 from 10 am until noon.**
 - a) Outdoor: Raking leaves, trimming shrubs/trees, picking up trash. Please bring your own rakes and barrels/bags (so that the leaves can be taken to the recycle bins the same day.)
 - b) Indoor: Clean food stains from chair seats in the Celebration Center, and from the pew cushions in the Sanctuary.
2. Two cemetery plots at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Fargo still remain. If interested, contact Clint Podoll (701-793-7133.)



"Main Street Living" Media Ministry – November Update

A month ago, I wrote about the Twin Towers in New York City destroyed by terrorist 22 years ago. And now today, as I prepare this newsletter for November, I am watching the news reporting on **the war between Israel and Hamas!** We read in Matthew 24: *"Jesus answered: 'Watch out that no one deceives you ... You will hear of wars and rumors of wars but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains ... Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.'"* Our MSL Media Ministry is a part of the preaching of the gospel to the world! By the power of God's Word and the working of the Holy Spirit through it, **stand firm!**

Please continue to share information about our LCMS "MSL" media ministry with others. In addition to being broadcast each Sunday morning, you can view archived programs anytime at www.mainstreetliving.com – then click on the link under the picture identified as "Fargo/ Bismarck." Thank you for your needed financial support! Checks may be sent to "Main Street Living NORTH," 821-5th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account on the website. God's blessing in Christ!

Ken Koehler, MSLN Coordinator

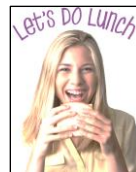
"MSL North" Programs for November 2023:

Nov 5th: Rev. Karl Weber, St. John Lutheran Church, Ottertail, MN, and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Richville, MN, presents the message: "The Blessed" based on St. Mark 5:1-12. *"This Is the Life" program: "The Deadly Pen" - A businessman struggles with the guilt of another man's death.*

Nov 12th: Rev. Kent Borglum, St. John Lutheran Church, Montevideo, MN, presents the message: "God's Word for All Who Grieve" based on I Thessalonians 4:13-18. *"This Is the Life" program: "Transition" - A young boy reacts to the divorce of his parents and the new reality he now faces.*

Nov 19th: Rev. Christopher Neuendorf, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bottineau, ND, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Rugby, ND, and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Willow City, ND, presents the message: "Using Our Talents Well" based on Matthew 25:14-30. *"This Is the Life" program: "Senior Citizen" - A man struggles with purpose and a place in life after retirement.*

Nov 26th: Rev. Brian Doel, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Minot, ND, presents the message: "The Abundant Position of Christ" based on Matthew 14:13-21. *"This Is the Life" program: "The Gift" - A daughter struggles with what to do with birthday gift money.*



November 19th Noon potluck meal will be only cold food (sandwiches and salads, please – ice cream will be provided). The reasoning is this: less preparation & cleanup; and quicker progression to the Voters Meeting.

Family Serving Groups

Ed Bean, FSG Coordinator, has stated the November group is **Bum** (Bumgarner-Downs); the December group is **Dra** (Eggebraaten-Gunnerson), and the January group is **Haa** (Haarstick-Janssen). Thank you for volunteering once or twice per year to assist with serving coffee time and the occasional congregational dinner.



Acts 4 is a Wednesday evening children's program for kids from kindergarten to 5th grade. The group is off to a great start this fall. The program includes a Bible lesson, games, crafts, and other activities. It runs from 7-8 pm on the same nights as confirmation meets [excluding Dec 13th & 20th]. For more information, please contact Amy Hirsch at 701-866-1668 or amyhirsch1979@gmail.com.

To request prayers for the PRAYER

CHAIN, contact one of the coordinators: Clarice Michel (Claricemichel39@gmail.com; 701-237-9759) or Sandi Gardner-Leikas (701-237-9661; srendrag76@gmail.com). You may also wish to join the prayer chain. Contact Clarice or Sandi to volunteer. *Note: Prayer Chain items do NOT go on the Prayer Page of the Immanuel News unless directed to do so.*



Growing Together in Grace



Capital Improvement Campaign Update

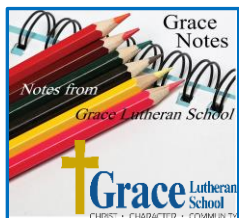
Having met and exceeded the two-thirds fundraising goal, the Growing Together in Grace capital improvement campaign is moving forward. The construction committee, the architect and engineers, PACE, LCEF, and the fundraising committee are all very busy right now with meetings and decisions as the project becomes reality.

As of October 17th, GTIG has raised nearly \$849,000. This is incredible. GTIG will continue to fundraise until the project is fully funded between \$1.25 and \$1.5 million.

The GTIG fundraising committee has been working hard for many months and would like to add some new faces to the team. If you have a passion for Grace Lutheran School and connections with people who also have a passion for the school, the fundraising committee could use your help and expertise. If you feel called to help, please contact Amy Hirsch at 701-232-7747.

If you would like to pledge toward Grace Lutheran School's capital improvement campaign, contact Amy Hirsch at 701-232-7747 or amy.hirsch@glsfargo.org. This project also has a Vanco portal at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZHMF>.

memorials & gifts	
From (date)	Honor/MEMORY
Arnold Myhra	KAY LEVERSON



Greetings from Grace Lutheran School!

A Celebration of Grace dinner and auction is coming up on Friday, November 10th. Silent auctions will open to everyone

on our website on November 5th. We have many wonderful items on this year's silent auction, perhaps even some Christmas gifts for your family and friends! Teacher ticket sponsorships are still available as well. If you can't make it to the event, please consider a donation through the auction link on our website to fund curriculum that allows our students to be academic leaders.

Grace Lutheran School has been working on a comprehensive technology plan for several years. One of the final steps in this process is to have a website that matches our email addresses, to have total in-house control of all our tech platforms, and to return (rightly) to our dot org status. The new website address is www.glsfargo.org. Go check it out! (The old address redirects to the new one.)

All families are invited to Grace's Winter Festival on Saturday, December 2 from 12-3 pm. Come for an afternoon of crafts, games, treats, and Christmas merriment. If you can volunteer to help, please contact Amy Hirsch at amy.hirsch@glsfargo.org.

Calendar:

November 10 – A Celebration of Grace – 5:30 pm at Sanctuary Events Center
Nov 22, 23, 24 – No School



AVAILABLE: There is a supply of **mugs with our logo** and mission statement – ready to go and a bargain at \$6 each. Get a Christmas gift for your favorite member or friend of Immanuel! Pay in the church office/.



Poinsettias

Help beautify our chancel during the Christmas season!

If you would like to provide a Poinsettia to decorate this Christmas, please complete this order form and bring to the church office.

Colors available this year are Red, Pink, and Jingle Bell (mottled red & cream).



Deadline for ordering Poinsettias is **Nov 27th**!

Poinsettias may be removed from the altar area after services on Dec 25th.

Poinsettia Order Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____

Color: _____ Qty: _____

Color: _____ Qty: _____

Color: _____ Qty: _____

Please enclose **\$12.00** for each plant ordered.

Checks should be payable to:

Immanuel Lutheran Church.



YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS			
9-30-2023			
	BUDGET	2023	2022
* RECEIPTS *			
REGULAR ENVELOPES	\$585,000.00	\$409,907.32	\$391,793.36
PLATE OFFERINGS	\$10,000.00	\$6,998.00	\$8,081.50
SPEC. SERVICES & MISC.	\$20,000.00	\$8,710.72	\$11,140.62
ASSETS RELEASED	\$110,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,864.03
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$725,000.00	\$425,616.04	\$429,879.51
* EXPENSES *			
MISSIONS	\$123,000.00	\$84,883.49	\$82,048.21
ELDERS	\$29,900.00	\$17,209.39	\$23,451.56
EVANGELISM	\$3,750.00	\$2,668.87	\$6,236.93
STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE	\$8,300.00	\$6,011.28	\$2,681.76
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$58,900.00	\$39,932.68	\$38,966.11
TRUSTEES	\$136,000.00	\$57,760.32	\$70,536.82
ADMINISTRATION	\$304,100.00	\$183,038.00	\$208,690.85
HUMAN CARE	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CAMPUS MINISTRY	\$76,280.00	\$48,947.79	\$56,072.45
ENDOWMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$742,480.00	\$440,451.82	\$488,684.69
HOME PURPOSES PLUS (MINUS)	(\$17,480.00)	(\$14,835.78)	(\$58,805.18)
YEAR-TO-DATE REC'D			
BOTW-BLDG. MAINT. FUND		\$8,415.28	\$15,475.69
GFF (Basement Remodel)		\$502,827.90	\$0.00
GTIG (Grace Bldg Project)		\$3,600.00	\$0.00
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS		\$6,730.00	\$4,334.00

Christmas Cookie Bake

I know it's hard to believe, but Christmas is fast approaching! Which means it is the time of year for our biggest fundraiser! Once again, this year we are asking congregation members to help supply us with the materials that we need to make. Look for a sign-up sheet on the Youth Board in the Welcome Hall in the next couple of weeks. If you can donate, we would greatly appreciate it. We are asking that **all supplies be dropped off by Mon, Nov 27th.**

Children's Christmas Service

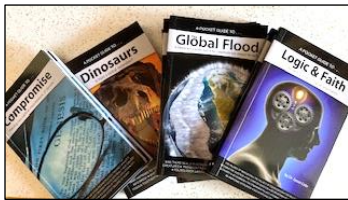
Practices will be **Dec. 3rd and 10th from 1-3 pm.** Parents, please indicate to SS teachers – or respond to the email that went out – whether or not your child(ren) will be participating in this special service, which will be held at **3 pm on Sun., December 17th**, titled "Jesus Has Come: A Festival of Scripture and Song." LWML will be serving treats to all upon completion of the service that afternoon, too.



Advent Devotional Books will be available, beginning on Thanksgiving Day. **Pick up** a regular-size or large-print version in the Welcome Hall for use from December 3rd (First Sunday in Advent) through January 6th (Epiphany Day).

Greetings from the library!

This month I would like to highlight a neat set of 'pocket guides' given to the library by Pastor Steve and Sue Schulz. They are published by



Answers In Genesis on a variety of topics: Logic & Faith,

Dinosaurs, The Bible, What is Science, The Human Body, Global Warming, UFOs & ETs, The Global Flood, Noah's Ark, Satan & the Serpent, Six Days, Best Evidences, A Young Earth, Astronomy, Atheism, Charles Darwin, Social Issues, Ape men, Compromise. These little guides are small in size but large in information and are a quick read.

To check these or any book out of the library, fill out the card in the back of the book with your name and date (including the year) and place in the card tin. Be sure to return the book when you are finished - just drop off in the box for returned books and I will take care of the rest.

As mentioned previously, the library is in a bit of re-organization (and a bit messy); but don't let this stop you from making use of this wonderful resource!

Connie Grondahl, Immanuel Librarian

My Faith Story...

The following "Faith Story" was submitted by Dr. Carolyn DeLorme. Carolyn and her husband are members at Immanuel. In addition to being an organist in our congregation, Carolyn writes a

November Worship Assistants

Nov 5	8 am	Elder: Vas Soori Acolyte: Wyatt S Usher Team: Rachow Greeter: L/S Bakken Video: Samuel Boateng	11 am	E: Vas Soori A: Elsa S UT: Lindgren G: P/J Moltzan
Nov 12	8 am	E: Tim Flakoll A: TBA UT: Sather G: R/J Kading V: Kay Tegtmeier	11 am	E: Tim Flakoll A: Perrin B UT: Tegtmeier G: D Heagle/K Hintz
Nov 19	8 am	E: Paul Ill A: Gretchen K UT: Stahlecker G: J/M Gornowicz V: Jack Bumgarner	11 am	E: Paul Ill A: Elsa S UT: Montana G: S/C Trautman
Nov 22/23	7 pm	AT GRACE LUTH CHURCH		UT: Volunteers V: Kay Tegtmeier
Nov 26	8 am	E: Jeff Sornsin A: Kinley K UT: Semanko G: Deanna Mayland V: Samuel Boateng	11 am	E: Jeff Sornsin A: Elsie T UT: Rolf G: J/B Rotzien

daily message which can be requested at:
flatvalley@gmail.com.

I was asked to write a faith story. "Name a time when your faith was tested or strengthened, a sort of 'faith-in-a-nutshell' overview," was the request. At first, I couldn't think of anything but then it came to me that for all the decades of my life, I have always believed that the Lord has brought me through all things, big and small. However, I have failed to believe that He could bring me through one more day. I suppose it was easy for me to account for what had passed because I could see it and know it. I could believe it because I had lived it. I was no different than Thomas who said, "Unless I see the holes in His hands and touch the wound in His side, I will not believe" (John 20:25). That wasn't faith. The good news is that the Holy Spirit worked to help me realize my error and my prayer became "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief" (Mark 9:24).

My oldest grandson had been taken from us by our former daughter-in-law when he was five years old. The loss was devastating and for years, our family didn't know where he was or how he was doing. Nearly two years passed when we were finally able to build a small connection and we started having sporadic phone conversations with him. Our grandson was able to give us a sense of where he was and so my husband and I decided

that we had to visit him, see his face, and embrace his being. We couldn't find the exact address on Google maps and the general location was so remote that we were able to reserve only a bed and breakfast for our first night. We literally went as the saying goes, "on a whim and a prayer." The long journey was tortuous. Unable to announce our intentions, we chose to arrive at the appointed time for one of our phone conversations, figuring that we could not be denied a visit if we were consuming the moments already allotted. After three days of travel, we left the Interstate highway and turned onto a two-lane country byway. A few more miles and we lost pavement continuing on a narrow gravel road without recognizing our specific location. We only had the address for the bed and breakfast, not our grandson's home. As we crossed the bridge of a large river, I saw a house through an opening in the trees. It matched the color mentioned by our grandson. In that moment, the door opened, and a woman came out onto the front deck with a young boy behind her. It was our grandson. "There he is," I screamed, and my husband abruptly jerked the car toward the driveway and up to the house. As my husband rolled down the car window, our grandson came running toward us. He reached in as far as his body would allow and hugged my husband with an expression of glee. My body shook and uncontrolled tears ran down my face. He was alive; our grandson was alive! We were allowed to take him for a bite to eat and the brief visit was strained. But it was a visit, nonetheless. We took him back, said our good-byes and crawled up the road toward our evening rest. For me, rest never came. I was so traumatized that I could not sleep nor could I eat the next morning. "Would this be all there was?" My husband and I had forced ourselves to make this a vacation trip thinking it would keep us from developing unrealistic expectations where our grandson was concerned. When morning finally came, we repacked our belongings and headed for the coast. We were maybe fifty miles down the road when my cell phone rang. It was our grandson's mother. "Do you have room for [grandson] at your hotel?" she asked. The truth didn't matter; the answer was a simple, "of course!" "Stop the car," I yelled at my husband. Having no idea what had just happened, he instantly pulled over, stopped the car, and did his best to soothe my uncontrollable cries. "We get to see him," I said between sobs. "I will never again doubt God's presence in my life, I

promise!" The next four days were both exhilarating and painful. We did our best to make the most of every minute that we had together, but we also knew that it was coming to an end. When we took our grandson back home, he understandably felt betrayed and abandoned for a second time.

Our journey home was worse than the original trip. We never had another conversation as our grandson was moved once again and our efforts to communicate with him were in vain. I kept my promise to God and He used that situation to grow my faith. Ten years have passed since that visit with our grandson and the pain of his absence is as much an open wound today as it was when he first left us. But my prayer is different, "Lord, keep him in the faith of his youth. If it is your will that I never see him again in this life, I pray that he will join me in heaven. Allow me to marvel at the greatness of your glory today. In your holy name, I pray-Amen." And all His people said, "Amen!"

*Note from the Editor: This means of fellowship among our Immanuel family was instituted in March 2015. "My Faith Story" was a monthly feature for a couple of years, where someone from Immanuel uses his/her creative writing abilities to **share their faith story** with the rest of the congregation. The story should be short, authentic, and personal. The story can be about a point where faith was tested, originated and/or strengthened, or an overview/outline of one's "faith-in-a-nutshell." Several members have stated that they look forward to these articles! If you are interested in participating in this project, contact the editor for future inclusion. Your story can inspire others – give it a try!*



Thanks to support from faith communities, individuals, and community groups in the Fargo-Moorhead area, the Emergency Food Pantry has served the community since 1972. The Emergency Food Pantry provides a food basket to families who cannot afford to buy groceries. Even though each family can receive up to six baskets from us each year, on average most families request two or three baskets each year.

We have seen an increased number of families asking for food this year and a decrease in food and monetary donations. During the first nine months of 2023, the **pantry provided food baskets to over 17,000 unique individuals** in the community. One family that we recently supported stands out. We provided a food basket to Monica* who is a widowed mother with three preschool children. Although she is working, she is struggling financially while parenting her growing children with one income. In order to continue providing a week's worth of food to the families, in recent months we purchased more food compared to previous years. For every dollar donated, the pantry can supply three meals to neighbors in need. A donation of \$28.00 will feed a family like Monica's for a week!

Three main ways to support the pantry's mission are donate nonperishable items, donate funds, and volunteer. **Our highest need right now is financial contributions.** We are seeking donations to support the food purchases and service to feed 5,500 families. Please consider a year-end donation to feed our neighbors in need. Donations can be made online at www.emergencyfoodpantry.com or by cash or check at Emergency Food Pantry 1101 - 4th Ave N, Fargo, ND 58102



As I drive along the streets lately, I am warmed by the bright, vibrant color display that God has put before us as the trees glow with their Fall colors, soon dormant for their winter rest and refreshment. We too, need times of rest and refreshment, which many of us enjoyed over the summer months, while still remembering those more homebound or in other ways needing an encouraging word, hug, phone call. Now it is our time to 'glow and shine' as we reach out in love and care during the upcoming season of shorter days and holiday times, remembering those who aren't able to get out as often, or are away from home and needing a 'touch of home.' We have several opportunities to fellowship and serve in the next two months:

Sat, Nov 4th – Unit Project Mtg @ 9:30 am.

We will be preparing Christmas cards to be sent to our homebound members, member college students, and active military members. Kirk Rosin, from St. Andrew, will also be with us to share a new video presentation from his work with Ala, the Ukrainian woman who is running Christian orphanages for the young people there who are in need. A short business meeting will also be in order, and treats served by Parish Workers Circle. Come and join us for an enjoyable morning! If you have Christian Christmas cards to share, we collect and use what's needed for this year and save extras for next year. If you have saved Christian message/picture cards received from past years, please bring or drop off those you no longer want, too, as we will use those to attach a Spanish message inside and send them to the Ysleta Mission in Texas.

Sun, Nov 19th – Our LWML will have a display table at the Time and Talent Fair between services in the Celebration Center. We will need 2-3 people to be at the table during that hour to answer questions and share information about LWML. Please let Patty know if you are able/willing to help with this!

Wed, Dec 13th – LWML serves the Advent meal at 5:00 pm. We will be serving chili and hot dogs, along with veggies and dip, breads/crackers, sour cream, cheese, and of course, desserts! Each Circle is asked to provide 5 doz. sweet treats. The rest of the food items will be purchased by the LWML and prepared at church. A sign-up sheet will be out on the LWML table for helpers for different shifts, making the tasks simple for everyone.

Sun, Dec 17th – LWML serves Christmas cookies/bars, hot chocolate, coffee, and water following the 3 pm Sunday School Christmas Service. Each Circle is asked to provide 7 dozen goodies. A sign-up sheet will be on the LWML table for helpers for different shifts. Many hands make light work for everyone!

Please check the **LWML table** for the **Fall Messenger, Fall Quarterly, sign-up sheet for providing 3 doz. cookies** for one of the Thursday LSF Bible studies, and any other information you may see there! Also, our ND District Mission Grant collections for the 2022-2024 biennium are low. Please prayerfully consider how you can financially help support funding for these grants. Our Mite Box is on the LWML table in the Welcome Hall for you to drop offerings in, or

place them in an envelope and put them in the LWML Treasurer's mailbox in the church office. We give thanks for Pastor Worral, DCE Grace Wolfgram, and all our church workers, as well as all of you who so generously give of your time and talent to serve others in whatever way you can! Thanksgiving blessings to all!
In Christ's Service,
Patty Walla, LWML President



1Nov – [Joe] & Sara McNett (15th)
7Nov – Brody & Bethany Katka (3rd)
9Nov – Len & Colleen Hurajt (55th)
15Nov – Jim & Carol Thoreson (48th)
17Nov – Clay & Fern Cigelske (50th)
18Nov – Steve & Cori Trautman (33rd)
27Nov – John & Lydia Trandem (13th)



1Nov – McKenzie Fischer
2Nov – Cheri Haarstick; Joe Maly
3Nov – Len Hurajt; [Ben] Kunkel
4Nov – Florence Brownlee (98); [Jeff] Wiedeman
5Nov – Deanna Mayland; Adam Amundson
6Nov – Robin Kargel; Lisa Eggebraaten; Liam Collins (4)
7Nov – C. Dade Kunkel (7)
8Nov – Geni Corwin; Emily Woyen; Skylar Decker (4)
9Nov – Shannon Dettling; Alex Hintz; Sydney Skaurud
10Nov – Dane Tollefson; Ethan Hilden; Mila Zellers (8)
11Nov – Alex Bubach
12Nov – Donn Rau; Madden Briggs (5)
13Nov – Alessandra Simmons; Gary Tougas
15Nov – John Maurer
16Nov – Anita Kittelson; Jade Harwood
17Nov – Julie Bopp
19Nov – Pam Beam; Hillary Hirsch

Immanuel Image, November 2023

21Nov – Wayne Oberg
22Nov – Andy Thoreson; Beata Woyen
23Nov – Linda Olson; Jerry Luebke; Jim Spangelo; Alissa Heagle; Sheila Bakken
24Nov – Tiffany Wardlow
25Nov – Richard Frohberg (88)
26Nov – Stan Schroeder; Ed Liberda
29Nov – [Ryan] Collins
30Nov – Clay Cigelske; Megan Dahl; Debra Nickel; Kerri Albrecht



DECORATING for the SEASON

Anyone who would like to help decorate for the Advent/Christmas season at 9:30 am on Monday, November 27th, please know that **you are all invited!**



GOD'S FIRM
FOUNDATION

God's Firm Foundation (GFF) Update

Simon Peter closes his letter in Second Peter 3:18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

There are many ways to grow in grace and knowledge in our Lord, including worship, prayer, and Bible study. Fellowship plays a huge part in the growth of our faith. Immanuel's basement is primarily a place for fellowship, where all members of the church can find shared beliefs, accountability, community, unity, and mutual service, all tenets for spiritual growth.

As God's Firm Foundation capital improvement campaign continues, let us commit to the fellowship of our members and the strength and growth derived from spending time together in God's Word and service.

Thank you and Blessings.....

Mitch & Lorinda Semanko, co-chairs (701-730-0885)

SERVING THE LORD IN Tanzania NEWS FROM THE STEFFENSON FAMILY



Bricks for the classroom block and lecture hall building.

Jenga

Many people remember playing Jenga, a building game which uses wood blocks to build a tower higher. Well, the word “Jenga” is a Swahili verb which means “to build.” Watu wanajenga darasa” means: “The people are building the classroom.”

Majengo Buildings

After we finished our initial Kiswahili language learning, we traveled from Iringa in the southern part of Tanzania where language school was located to Mwanza where we will live in the northern part of the country on Lake Victoria. Along the way, we stopped in Shinyanga to see bishop Nzelu. This last week, we traveled back to Shinyanga to go to the



immigration office, and we were able to see the progress on the seminary buildings. We, along with the

church leadership, are very excited about the progress on the seminary buildings. Currently the plans are to have the first class of students start in January.

In August, we stayed on the Evangelical Lutheran Church compound in Mwanza as we searched for a place to live and made preparations for our boys to begin school.

Thanks be to God for bringing us through our initial Kiswahili language studies. Lord-willing, we will continue language study as we get settled. The boys have Kiswahili classes in school. We hope to find a tutor to help us in our continued language study. Keep us in your prayers these weeks, as we hope to move into a home and get it set up to live and work. Please also pray for our health. It is normal to have a season of transition as our bodies adjust to a new location.



Thank you for partnering with us in this work of the Lord among His people in Tanzania.

In the peace of

Christ Jesus, Pastor Jason, Anna Marie, Johanes, and Immanuel Steffenson

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Jason and Anna Marie Steffenson. Make checks payable to: Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034. On the memo line include Steffenson-Tanzania. Give securely from any device:

<https://www.lcms.org/steffenson>; or call a donor care representative: 888-930-4438



News from the Maita family serving the Lord in Puerto Rico

Pastor Gustavo, Ruth, Mikhaela & Isaiah Maita

We are thankful for the Lutheran School students in West Seneca, NY who sent us

encouraging notes like this: “Dear Maita Family, Don’t worry, God is with you. He will never leave

you. You Can Do It! Because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”

Heb 13:5-6 — Jayce, Grade 6

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Pastor Gustavo & Ruth Maita.

Mark checks “Support of Ruth Maita” and send to Mission Central [see Steffenson article].



This shows our church at the right and a new plot of land on the left which will be an outdoor kitchen to provide a space for our outdoor activities. We look forward to help from a short term team from Hope Lutheran, Wakeforest, North Carolina coming in November.

ND District LCMS Message in a Pew

October 2023

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

You will not want to miss this conference! Details are still being worked out and updates will be shared on the LCMS North Dakota District website. Dr. Seitz is a former Lutheran Hour speaker and very dynamic presenter. Rev. Dr. Filipek serves Holy Cross and Immanuel in Lidgerwood. His recently published book tells how we are connected to God's story.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

SAVE THE DATE: February 10, 2024

Zion Lutheran Church

Bismarck



Dr. Seitz will discuss the importance of being dual Kingdom citizens and explore why creating a network of believers and churches is critical "for such a time as this."

DR. GREGORY SEITZ
Executive Director of Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty & Speaker Emeritus for Lutheran Hour Ministries

- Learn why Christians should engage with culture.
- Discover how we can interact with culture for its benefit and the church's mission.



Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek will share insights on his book "Life in Christ: Road, Mission, and Graced into God's Story."

Congregations' Status

Pres. Arie Bertsch

St. Peter-Belfield: vacancy (Rev. Anthony Ahrendt).

Redeemer-Grassy Butte: vacancy (Rev. Mike Wolters).

Crosspointe-Fargo: vacancy (Rev. Chris Waldvogel).

Peace-Garrison; St. Matthew-Max: vacancy (Rev. Nathan Schieber).

Grace-Fargo: Rev. Justin Woodside, Shepherd of the Valley & Bethel-Bismarck has returned the call (Rev. Bernie Worral).

Immanuel-Fargo: Rev. Jeffrey Kaznierski, St. Matthew-Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call.

Pastors & DCE's

Rev. Brian Doel, Our Savior-Minot, is considering a call to St. Paul-Williamsburg, IA.
Rev. Clark Jahнке, St. Andrew-West Fargo, is considering a call to Our Savior-Albuquerque, NM.
Rev. Adam Filipek, Holy Cross & Immanuel-Lidgerwood, is considering a call to Trinity-Clinton, MO.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS

Financial Information

September 2023

INCOME:

Congregational Mission Giving	\$46,583.35
Less Synodical Pledge (35%)	(\$16,304.17)
Net Congregational Mission Giving	\$30,279.18
Other Unrestricted Gifts	1,045.26
1-1-1 Mission Giving	843.96
Current gifts/fees for missions	4,985.34
Available Income	\$37,153.74

EXPENSES:

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Deaf Ministry, Youth)	\$22,180.08
Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	30,302.86
International/Local Missions	
Christ's Care for Children - Kenya (\$10,000)	0.00
Chile Mission (\$20,000)	0.00
Chile Mission - Special Events	0.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat (\$5,000)	0.00
(These missions were voted on by the District Convention. They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)	
Current Expenses	\$52,482.94
NET OPERATING LOSS FOR SEPTEMBER	(\$15,329.20)
Funds Given used for Current Expenses	\$11,450.00
Year To Date NET INCOME/LOSS	(\$10,938.81)

September giving was average and YTD we are at about average, which is a little behind where we should be. The balance of Fall semester student aid payments were made. Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our convention resolution missions are sent at the end of each fiscal quarter. YTD designated gifts for these missions as of September 30, 2023:

Christ's Care for Children - Kenya	\$1,543.18
Chile Partnership	\$1,416.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat	\$2,634.85

Please contact Tami Ulland at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com or call 701-360-1469 if you have more questions.

You can now use your credit/debit card to donate directly to the District. Click on the Give button on nodaklcms.org to pick where you would like your donation directed.

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