

# The Lutheran Beacon

## Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

304 Spruce St., P.O. Box 466, Tower, MN 55790

February 2022



Greetings Immanuel,

How are you? Mid winter always seems like a good time to check in with loved ones and friends. Though it may appear on the outside there are smiles all around, in the bleak midwinter there is often struggle. Struggle with less day light. Struggle with energy. Struggle with the cold temps and not being able to get outside and breath in that fresh air. Struggle with the state of the world. So much...

Winter can feel heavy for those of us that are here in God's great north woods, unless you are an avid skier, snowmobiler, ice fisher person. The winter does offer a lot of great outdoor activities when the temps stay above zero!

But the point here, is how are you doing? Where are you at in terms of grief, joy, life, discipleship? What does your soul long for? We can get caught up in the every day busyness of life and forget to check in each other and ourselves.

As we enter into the second month of 2022, it will be filled with red and pink, hearts and chocolate and February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentines Day. So while the world around us consumes and buys into this secular "holiday" why don't we buy into this notion of love and spend the month

loving on each other? Who knew February 17<sup>th</sup> is National Random Acts of Kindness Day! Let's make it an entire month!

Checking in with friends, church family, loved ones. Send a letter, a card, an email just to say "hey I'm thinking of you." Why not make February a month of random acts of kindness and love?

I challenge you Immanuel to do something kind for someone each day this month with no strings attached and no need to receive anything in return. Because the reality is your heart will be filled with joy by the end of February.

By the end of the month then perhaps we will all be in a place to then enter into Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.





## Offering & Attendance

Date	Attendance	Offering
January 2	30	\$ 4,375
January 9	42	\$ 1,100
January 16	36	\$ 1,096
January 23	34	\$ 1,427
January 30	not recorded until February 1, 2022	
Direct Deposit		\$ 2,167

### Income & Expenses

January 2022	
Income: \$15,195	Expenses: \$14,600
January 2021	
Income: \$22,767	Expenses: \$11,158

## January Volunteers

*We are in need of volunteers-if you are able to help the church, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you.*

### USHERS

February 6  
February 13  
February 20  
February 27

### COMMUNION PREP

February 6  
February 13  
February 20  
February 27

### LECTORS

February 6	Jarri Ankrum
February 13	Penny Jackson
February 20	Faye Mobilia
February 27	Howard Ankrum

*We sincerely appreciate our Volunteers!  
Thank you*



## Happy Birthday

2	Garrett Lamppa
4	Whitney Cobby
6	Kalee Bjorgo
9	Joan Lamppa
12	Delores Hujanen
14	Emmi Aluni
15	Bill Meehan
15	Terrence Peitso
16	Piper Bundy
16	Faye Mobilia
18	Dorothy Aronen
18	Bob Swarz
22	Elaine McGillivray



No members Anniversaries in February

# Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregation Meeting was held on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. immediately following worship in the sanctuary.

There were 30 members present. Highlights of the meeting where;

Angie Gurius and Nancy Wagner are delegates to the May synod convention

Angie Gurius was elected to the Church Council

Voting members for congregational council will consist of 7 elected members, not 9 (constitutional change)

Change C13 03 to: "Worship, Christian Education, Church Property, Health Ministry, Personnel Parish Relations, Social Justice, Finance, Stewardship, Memorial, and Audit Committee" (constitutional change)

The 2022 Budget was approved as presented.

We thank our three outgoing council members- Dan Mobilia, Wayne Dahl and John Aronson for many years of dedicated service to Immanuel.

The full minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting are available in the church office along with a copy of the Annual General Report.

## Council and Finance Meeting

There was no planned meetings in January, there was the Annual Meeting.

Next regular Finance Meeting will be February 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Council Meeting will be February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

## WELCA

The women of Immanuel met on Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

After a short devotion and reports from the secretary and treasurer it was shared that close to 60 cards (birthday, holiday, get well, and sympathy) were sent in 2021. What a wonderful sharing to show prayer, thought, and Christian love.

The quilters are busy after a short holiday break. They do such amazing work!

Then, a challenging question was placed before the small group. Do we continue on with such small numbers. Thoughts were a bi-monthly meeting, no longer meeting, or continuing with our small numbers. It was shared that we do such giving things for our church, community, and the world. What to do? We decided to continue on, but truly would be encouraged to see our numbers increase and the many needs we support continue to be blessed. Please, prayerfully consider serving the Lord, in part, with the WELCA.

It was approved to give a \$100 gift to the United Way earmarked for the Buddy Backpack program.

Our church is in need of a thorough deep clean. We decided on April so that we can clean windows, as well as, the interior church. We will either be calling for your help, or putting out a sign up sheet for areas. Watch March's and April's newsletters for further details.

We also decided to start a Toiletry Kit project for convention. We will have the months of March, April, and May to complete, as many as we can, of the below listed items. We will have a basket in the narthex starting the first week of February for dropping off your collected items for this great project. Start collecting now and continue to fill the basket.

Large bottles of Shampoo  
Large bottles of Conditioner  
Large bottles of Lotion  
Deodorants (womens or mens)  
Bars of Soap  
Package of Feminine Pads  
Shaving Creams and Packages of Razors  
Toothpastes  
Combs

(NO HOTEL OR TRAVEL SIZES, all full size)

Thank you for contributing to this kit and your consideration to become a part of WELCA. A vital part to the foundation of the church.

Inviting Women of ALL Ages! Thursday, February 17th, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m. Immanuel Fellowship Hall. The women of the church continue to work towards helping those in need. We pray that many of you will consider joining our group when we reconvene in January.

Come and find out what WELCA is all about. We are always looking for women who want to be of service to others and to the world.

We have distance seating and health safety also.

## Parish Health Ministry

Our Parish Health Ministry cabinet members are the following and can be contacted with any suggestions for the health ministry. If any of you have family or friends that the ministry may be able to assist in some way, please do not hesitate to contact any of these cabinet members:

- \* Cathy Carson 753-3885
- \* Muriel Scott 410-4543
- \* Barbara Rinne 753-2091
- \* Kay Hanson 218-248-0198
- \* Shelly Padgett 228-780-3192
- \* Ilene Rice 719-331-3447
- \* Faye Mobilia, Parish Nurse 753-6708
- \* Marit Kringstad, Council representative 1-612-280-9195

Please note there is a Resource Book/Binder in the church office for your convenience. to be out in the community representing Immanuel and our ministry partners Recycled Lives! Farmers Market is Fridays from 4 – 6. At the Train! If you get a chance stop by and say hello to the ladies and Lloyd, there is lots of good food and items at the Farmers Market.

## Quilting

The Immanuel quilters are meeting every Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00-11:00. This group of wonderful women enjoy assembling large pieces of fabric into beautiful quilts. Almost all the fabric and supplies have been and continue to be donated for this project. We truly appreciate your donations. If you are interested in joining or finding out more about us, please contact Penny Jackson at

651-238-3732 (if no answer please leave a message).

## Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2022 are available in the narthex and have been placed in alphabetical order by last name. The office is open Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 – 1:00 and of course on Sunday mornings for you to pick up your 2022 offering envelopes.

## Dear VLM Member Congregation,

Attached is a copy of the **2022 proposed budget** that the Board is presenting to the **VLM Annual Meeting at 11 a.m. on February 5th at Gloria Dei Lutheran, 219 N. 6th Ave E, Duluth, MN 55805. Registration will begin at 10:40 a.m.**

The meeting will be **streamed for the public starting at 10:50 a.m.** to watch via the [Gloria Dei website](#). The link will be shared on the [VLM Facebook page](#) and on the [VLM Annual Meeting Page](#) (We will also be posting all of the 2021 Annual Report documents on the meeting page).

**There will not be any online voting this year. Voting delegates will need to be present this year. We will be following all of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church's COVID Protocols, including mandatory masks, alternate seating, social distancing, no food served, and there will be a limit of one hour for the meeting.**

Over the next week, a member of the VLM board will be contacting your church office to ask who will be representing your congregation as your **Rostered and Lay delegates and confirm their attendance at the meeting.** A quorum of 17 congregations is required.

If you have questions about who your delegates are or how many you have, please contact Katie in the VLM office at (800) 331-5148 or [VLM@VLMcamps.org](mailto:VLM@VLMcamps.org).

Thank you for supporting the camps and representing your congregations in this way.

See you in God's great northwoods!

Joel Abenth  
Executive Director  
[218-780-2069](tel:218-780-2069)  
[Joel@VLMcamps.org](mailto:Joel@VLMcamps.org)

### **Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry**

1105 E Superior Street  
Lower Suite  
Duluth, MN 55802  
800-331-5148  
[www.VLMcamps.org](http://www.VLMcamps.org)

***It's Great to be Alive in God's Great Northwoods!***

### **Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA**

Lay Leader Network 2022 Annual Gathering online via Zoom and in-person at Bethlehem Lutheran, Brainerd February 26, 2022 9 AM-2PM

Plan to join us for a day of inspirational learning about lay leader ministries and going deeper to hear and answer the call the Lord has for you?

Registration and additional details at <https://nemnln2022.eventbrite.com>

Questions? Email" [LLN@NEMNSYNOD.ORG](mailto:LLN@NEMNSYNOD.ORG)  
Cell: 515-708-1412

## **Contact Us**

Church Office: 753-2378  
[ielctower@gmail.com](mailto:ielctower@gmail.com)  
[www.towerlutheran.com](http://www.towerlutheran.com)  
[www.facebook.com/ImmanuelTower](http://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelTower)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 – 1:00

### **STAFF**

**Pastor:** Rev. Liz Cheney  
**Office Manager:** Donna Frank  
**Minister of Music:** MaryBeth Reller  
**Custodian:** James Urick

### **Members Who Are Homebound**

**Jim Charles** (Birthday May 5)  
4559 Shoreline Drive, Apt #406  
Spring Park, MN 5584

**Carol and Bob Burgess**  
705 17<sup>th</sup> St. N. Apt #304  
Virginia, MN 55792

**Ron Hujanen** (Birthday November 25)  
Cook Hospital & Nursing Home Room S-204  
10 5<sup>th</sup> St. S.E.  
Cook, MN 55723

**Tim Rice** (Birthday March 11)  
Edgewood Vista  
705 17<sup>th</sup> St  
Virginia, MN 55792

**Eileen Swanson** (Birthday July 11)  
Vermilion Senior Living  
Tower, MN 55790

**Ralph Christopherson** (January 16)  
Edgewood Vista  
705 17<sup>th</sup> St.  
Virginia, MN 55792

### **Scripture readings for the month of December**

#### **February 6**

Isaiah 6:1-8 {9-13}  
Psalm 138  
1 Corinthians 15:1-1  
Luke 5:1-11

#### **February 13**

Jeremiah 17:5-10  
Psalm 1  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20  
Luke 6:17-26

#### **February 20**

Genesis 45:3-11,15  
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40  
1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50  
Luke 6:27-38

#### **February 27**

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinhi3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36

304 Spruce St.  
PO Box 466  
Tower, MN 55790



IMMANUEL

CARE. SHARE. WELCOME. ELCA.

**In Person Worship** 10:00 am Sunday with Holy Communion  
Find us online:  
**Facebook:** Immanuel Lutheran Church of Tower

**Contact Pastor Liz Cheney at**  
218-780-8907  
[lizcheney44@gmail.com](mailto:lizcheney44@gmail.com) (personal & private)  
[ielctower@gmail.com](mailto:ielctower@gmail.com) (public)