

The Lutheran Beacon

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

October 2022



Fall Greetings Immanuel!

Fall is definitely in the air isn't it! The trees though are hanging on to their green leaves longer than usual. I love the drive to Tower this time of year because every day the scenery is different as more and more color begins to pop.

What are your favorite fall activities? A nice hike? Wearing a sweater and jeans again? Preparing for a long winter? We are indeed in a transformational season both physically and spiritually perhaps.

As we wind down from the busyness of summer, we begin the transition to a quiet, contemplative season of winter. Fall cleaning, schedule changes, a routine and rhythm that is more intentional. All of this lends itself also to the church calendar in which we are transitioning out of Ordinary time with Reformation, All Saints Sunday, Christ the King Sunday and the new church year begins again with Advent.

I hope that your transition from season to season is going well. I hope you find the time to be still in and among the changes around us. I hope that you can see and feel the changes in yourself as well.

One change or transformation or maybe just a new thing that I did over the summer was take a 12 week course to become a certified grief educator with grief guru David Kessler. I have completed my work and am not certified. My goal is to begin a grief support group here in Tower which will meet at Immanuel biweekly beginning in October.

This grief support group is just that a support group. There will be no curriculum we follow, just a safe space to come together to have our grief witnessed and be surrounded by others who have experienced grief in one way or another as well. As interest leads the way there will be opportunities to branch out into specific grief groups – loss of spouse, children, by suicide, etc. But for now it will be a general grief support group that I will facilitate. If you or someone you know may benefit from such a group/space please join us.

The fundraiser for Recycled Lives tentatively set for Oct 1 has been changed to October 15. It will be free will offering for the meal which will be a taco bar (Beef and chicken). We will also like to have silent auction items and themed baskets for the evening. If you would like to donate something to the fundraiser please have it to the church by Saturday, October 15th before 4pm. And let Pastor Liz know so we can be sure we have enough items. This fundraiser is for Recycled Lives general fund. Shawn and Brad will be here with us and will have a time of sharing during the event.

Other important dates to keep in mind:

Thursdays Book study at 10:00 a.m.
October 9th Congregational Meeting
October 9th Sunday school begins at 9:10
October 12th Confirmation starts at 5:30
October 19th Grief Support Group at 6:00

See the calendar in the newsletter for other activities, birthday and anniversaries!

Enjoy the ever changing fall season!

Pastor Liz



Certified Grief Educator

BY DAVID KESSLER + GRIEF.COM

Letter from Council President

Here's hoping you had a wonderful summer and are getting a chance to enjoy these brisk Fall days!

First, I'd like to acknowledge the success of our monthly Community dinners! The attendance has been very good. I encourage you to join us each month and to invite your neighbors as well. And thanks to the many volunteers who work together to plan, cook, serve, and clean up!

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday October 9 after church. The first item will be to vote on the Diversity Statement that the Church Council is recommending for approval. Recall that the statement was introduced at a Congregational Meeting in May. We thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important topic; we have received considerable comments and feedback.

Secondly, the Church Council has been working this year to update our Strategic/Visioning plan: what are the most important items (beyond Immanuel's core ministry) that we want to concentrate on in the next few years? The present plan was adopted in 2018---so think about the many changes in our national and local communities since then.

We would like to share with the Congregation the five draft goals to encourage discussion and comments on the goals. Our intent would be to revise the goals through this fall and then adopt the new plan at the January Annual Congregational Meeting. The draft goals are:

1. Increase membership and increase stewardship.
2. Strengthen Faith Formation as a core ministry.
3. Care for other congregations and the local community.
4. Building renovation and maintenance.
5. Support global missions through Recycled Lived missions.

The key to any successful strategic plan is your involvement and implementation. There will be many opportunities for Committee involvement, and I encourage you to become involved to help meet our goals.



October 2	Katy Mayo
October 4	Andrea Alto
October 4	Aubri Aluni
October 4	John Aronson
October 10	Joyce Swanson
October 12	Brendan Chiabotti
October 13	Sheila Barsness
October 13	Julie Luczak
October 14	Orlyn Kringstad
October 16	Allison Maus
October 16	Cassandra Maus
October 20	Phyllis Hall
October 22	Lispeth Buettner
October 23	Angela Dahl
October 24	Nancy Wagner
October 25	Owen Zak
October 27	Marilyn Turnbull
October 28	Lance Dahl
October 30	Mary Batinich
October 30	Arne Hall



October 14 Mark and Cindy Zollar

Offering & Attendance

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
September 4	49	\$ 1,960
September 11	53	\$ 980
September 18	63	\$ 3,596
September 25	54	\$ 2,215
Direct Deposit		\$ 2,323
Noisy Offerings-September		\$ 40.70

Income & Expenses

September 2022

Income: \$11,478 Expenses: \$ 13,644

September 2021

Income: \$ 9,721 Expenses: \$ 10,656

October 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

October 2 Orlyn & Marit Kringstad
October 9
October 16
October 23
October 30

COMMUNION PREP

October 2 Nancy Wagner, Heather Chaulklin
October 9 Lynn & Muriel Scott
October 16 Lynn & Muriel Scott
October 23
October 30 Lynn & Muriel Scott

LECTORS

October 2 Cathy Carlson
October 9 Jim Carlson
October 16 Lynn Scott
October 23 Muriel Scott
October 30 Cheryl Lamppa

***We sincerely appreciate our Volunteers!
Thank you***

Council Meeting

The council met on Wednesday September 21st, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

Pastor Liz has completed her Grief Counseling class and is certified.

Confirmation and Sunday School will begin this month.

The Congregational Meeting is set for October 9th, vote on 'diversity statement' to be 'yes or no' vote and to be written ballot-votes to be counted before end of meeting.

The next council meeting will be held at 9 AM on Wednesday October 12th, 2022.

A full copy of the Council Minutes is on file with the church secretary if interested.

Quilting

Quilting resumed in September. We got the sewing machines up and running and beautiful quilts are on being made.

The quilters meet from 9 AM to 12 noon on Wednesdays. Please feel free to pop in to see what quilting is all about or visit for coffee and treats, all welcome!

If you have any questions please contact Penny Jackson at church on Sundays or leave a message on her voice mail at 651-238-3732.

WELCA

Greetings, I have been a member of the Church for approximately 50 years. When women become members of Immanuel the are automatically members of WELCA (women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America), We are a service organization for the needs of our church.

Thank you to the new members of Immanuel who have volunteered their time and talents to fulfill these needs.

Prior to Covid WELCA met monthly from September to May. We fulfilled many needs locally and worldwide,)school kits, toiletry kits, quilts, etc.)

Our next WELCA meeting will be Wednesday October 19th at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

We start with a devotion, prayers, short business meeting, then plan ways to be of service to our church. We periodically have guest speakers on topics of importance.

New members are Always Welcome!!

We understand that not everyone likes meetings so thank you to the many new volunteers in our church that have helped in many ways.

God's Blessings to you, Cheryl Lamppa

Thursday Book Study

The Thursday book study resumed on September 8th at 10:00 AM. They will be continuing with the book *If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk* by John Pavlovitz.

The book study group meets every Thursday at 10 AM. All are Welcome!!

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 218-780-3192
- * 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.

Community Meal

As this newsletter is being prepared the church fellowship is busy with volunteers readying and preparing for tonight's second community meal.

Our first community meal was a great success. We are hopeful for a good turnout for tonight's event.

We will be in the fellowship hall serving rigatoni, salad and garlic bread!

A big thank you to Heather Chaulkin for sharing her expertise and organizational skills and helping us get Tower's monthly community meal

off the ground! We welcome Heather and her family as new members here at Immanuel!

The social ministry committee is also responsible for all of their work and help and for taking on this new ministry under their committee! We have such a wonderful congregation! Isn't it fun to visit with one another and see neighbors, friends and even meet some new faces!

The community meals will be the last Wednesday of each month, so our next meal will be on October 26th, mark your calendars!!

Sunday School Begins Oct 9th

Sunday school for preschool – 5th grade will begin again on October 9th. Sunday school will be before worship and begin at 9:10 and conclude around 9:50 so families and teachers can get upstairs to worship.

Confirmation Starts October 12th

Confirmation classes resume on Wednesday, October 12th from 5:30 – 7. Our fall meeting dates are:

10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30 & 12/14

As our students begin their second year, they will be looking for a confirmation mentor. We have four students to match up with an adult mentor. If you would be interested in being a confirmation mentor this year or would like more information about it, please see Pastor Liz.

Fundraiser for Recycled Lives Oct 15th

Please join us on Saturday, October 15th for a fundraiser and meal to support the ministries of Recycled Lives. Taco bar for dinner for a free will offering. Also silent auction and bucket raffles available. Event from 4:00 – 7:00 with a time of sharing from Missionary Shawn Johnson at 5:30.

If you would like to donate an item or a basket for the raffles please see Pastor Liz.

Grief Support Group

Grief is an all too familiar journey that we are all on. Grief comes in many forms and never really goes away! Pastor Liz is starting a general and

open grief support group that will meet biweekly here at Immanuel. It is open to all experiencing grief and looking for a safe space for support, encouragement, sharing and grieving together.

The first support group will be Wednesday, October 19th starting at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Bible Presentation October 9th

We will be presenting Bibles to our 3 year olds and 3rd graders on Sunday, October 9th during worship. The following children will be receiving Bibles:

Owen Zak
Nash Lenci
Harper Cobby
Emmi Aluni

If someone is missing from this list please contact Pastor Liz.

New Member Sunday October 30th

On Sunday, October 30th during worship, we will be receiving new members as well as those who have transferred their membership from another congregation.

If you are interested in becoming a member through either new membership or via transfer please see Pastor Liz for more information.

Members News

We will have a small section dedicated to our members to share news, maybe a new grandchild, a special achievement or a move if you would like to share your news with the congregation please email your news to ielctower@gmail.com so it can be shared.

Katy Mayo has recently moved to Virginia, her new address is Apt #305E 8515 Park Villa Drive Mt. Iron, MN 55768

Contact Us

Church Office: 753-2378
ielctower@gmail.com
www.towerlutheran.com
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 17th St. N. Apt #304
Virginia, MN 55792

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

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

Scripture Readings for the month of October

October 2 Habakkuk 1:1-4,2:1-4 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	October 9 2 Kings 5:1-3,7-15c Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19
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October 16 Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8	October 23 Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22 Psalm 84:1-7 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18 Luke 18:9-14
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October 30
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

304 Spruce St.
PO Box 466
Tower, MN 55790



IMMANUEL
CARE. SHARE. WELCOME. ELCA.

Contact Pastor Liz Cheney at

218-780-8907

lizcheney44@gmail.com (personal & private)

ielctower@gmail.com (public)

In Person Worship 10:00 am Sunday with Holy Communion

Find us online:

Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran Church of Tower

