

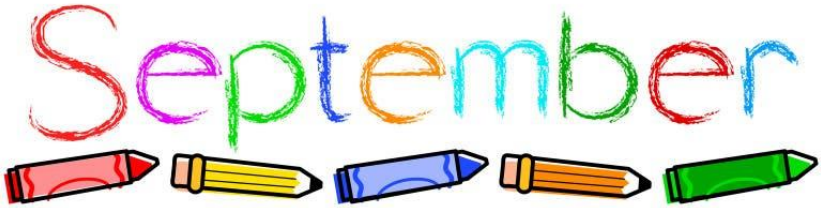


IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALMELUND, MN

MESSENGER

September

2025



LEARNING is FUN!

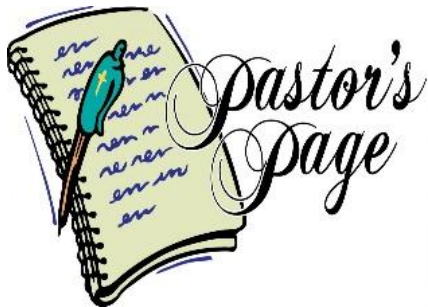
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The monthly newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Almelund, MN

A few weeks ago, we had one of the best Vacation Bible Schools I can remember—over thirty kids filling our space with energy, laughter, and learning. (Special thanks to all the volunteers) Together, we explored the wildness of following Jesus. The world can feel like a wild, wild place—sometimes scary, sometimes uncertain—but Jesus gives us gifts to face it with courage.



That led me to ask a question, and I think it's one worth asking together: *What gift has Jesus given you to make the world a little less scary?* Too often, we sell ourselves short. We think, "I don't have much to offer." But that's simply not true. Each one of us has God-given skills, abilities, and passions. The challenge is naming them, claiming them, and then using them.

This fall, we'll be doing just that. In October, alongside our New Member Classes, we'll host another **Spiritual Gifts Retreat**. Last year more than ten people joined in, and it was eye-opening. My hope is that even more of you from Sunday School age, Confirmation, Old Members to New Members will take the opportunity this year—to pause, reflect, and discover how God has uniquely equipped you. Because when you know your gifts, you not only see yourself differently—you start to see the ways you can help build up the Kingdom of God right here and now.

First, we gather with the whole community at **Apple Fest**, a reminder of the joy of being neighbors together. Then, the very next weekend, we'll celebrate **Rally Sunday on September 28th**—our big fall kickoff here at Immanuel. Worship, fellowship, learning, and a chance to say: this is who we are, gifted by God, and ready to live it out together.

So, here's my invitation: celebrate the gift you are. Show up. Share your presence. Lean into the wildness of following Jesus this fall. The world may be scary at times, but together, using the gifts God has given us, we can make it a little brighter, a little kinder, and a little more full of hope.

See you at Apple Fest. See you at Rally Sunday. See you this fall, as we walk this wild road together with Christ.

— Pastor Justin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rally Day: Sept. 28 - "Men of Immanuel" serve Pancake Breakfast

Stewardship will meet on September, 2nd at 1pm in the Fireside Room.

Naomi Circle will meet at the home of Lois Ness at 9:30am on September 16th for our next Circle gathering.

The Women of the ELCA: Our 2025 meeting dates will be held at church, in the Fireside room at 10am on the following date.

October 13 Naomi circle to lead

Our planning meeting for 2026 will be held on January 12, 2026 with Sarah circle to lead. All Women are welcome come join us!

First Lutheran of Harris and Spring Lake Lutheran invite all women of our church to join them on Saturday September 27th for the North Cluster Gathering at First Lutheran in Harris. Registration begins at 9:00 with the program at 9:30. Program speaker will be from Options for Women / Chisago County. The morning monetary offering will be split between SWO and Options for Women. A material offering of infant clothing and diapers will be given to Options for Women. If you have any questions please call Mary Johnson at 612-417-2964. See you at First Lutheran on Saturday September 27th.

Youth Group registration will be held by Wed Sept. 3rd at 6pm. Parents need to be present. It should only take about 1/2 hour.

All kids in 6th-12th grade are encouraged to join!!

If you have any questions, please talk to Dee or Jason.

Youth Group will officially kick off on Wed Sept. 17th from 6pm-7pm.

Then will be held on every other Wed.

Schedule's will be handed out.

Apple Fest is fast approaching! The Youth Group will be having their walking Taco stand and need all youth there to help.

This is a big fundraiser for the group.

Tune in our Daily Texts, Monday through Saturday on our Facebook Page [@immanuelchurchofalmelund](https://www.facebook.com/@immanuelchurchofalmelund)

A daily devotional time based on an Old and New Testament Bible verse based on a Moravian Church tradition and Ground Up Grace Publications Daily Texts 2025 books.

30th ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 21, 2025 - 11-4:00

The Apple Festival Committee is looking for VOLUNTEERS to help make Apple Crisp and Apple Bread Pudding. We'll be coming together, sharing lots of laughter and fellowship while baking up a storm in Immanuel's kitchen. All help would be appreciated - come when you can, stay as long as you can!

Apple Butter - Tuesday, September 9 - 1:00,
Apple Crisp - Thursday, September 18 - 2:00
Apple Bread Pudding - Friday, September 19 - 4:00

VOLUNTEERS are also needed Apple Fest Sunday to help set-up, serve and clean-up. If interested, please contact Pat @ 651-583-2100.

Created & Becoming

Faith Conversations at the Edges of Life and Creation

Fourth Thursday of every month at the Wild Mountain Winery

6:30 PM – Come early for wine, stay for the conversation!

September – End Times: Apocalypse, Renewal, and the Big Picture

Are we living in the last days—or just beginning again? Join us to explore biblical prophecy, popular myths, and hopeful visions of renewal.

October – Creation & Earth Care: Partners in a Living World

We close the series grounded in our shared home. What does it mean to be stewards of creation? We'll explore eco-theology, sustainability, and sacred responsibility.

Join us for a monthly series where science, culture, and faith meet in honest dialogue. Brought to you by **Immanuel Lutheran Church of Almelund** and **First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Taylors Falls**.

The Immanuel Quilters will meet Tuesday, September 9th, 10am-2pm.

The kitchen will be in use by the Apple Festival group, so we need to plan a salad luncheon for noon. Thank you to Gwen Swenson for the picture of our quilt at the Luther Point auction. We'll be tying and piecing quilts for upcoming events... Apple Festival, Immanuel Sampler, future graduations, and baptisms. Everyone welcome! If you know of anyone who could use a quilt, please talk to any quilter... we have extras to share. Hope to see you

Tuesday, September 9th!



Martha Strecker. 651-341-3885

Memorial Committee will meet on Monday, November 10th at 5:00 pm

Prayer Shawl Message

There are many more shawls available in Room C for gifting & you are encouraged to give them to anyone in need of feeling God's presence and comfort. Please sign the sheet you'll find there and take a card for gifting. Gift bags & tissue paper are also available for you to use.

Our shelves are still overflowing with donations of yarn!! Bundles have been put together for future prayer shawls and are available for anyone to pick up and be creative. You are invited to come and check out the array of yarn and colors, pick some out and join us on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 1:30 PM in the Fireside Room. We knit, crochet, have tea & a treat and enjoy fellowship while relaxing to music. If you haven't had the opportunity to learn how to knit or crochet, and would like to give it a try, we would be happy to help you get started. All supplies are available. Please call Joanne at 651-278-2686 with any questions.

Photo of our donated quilt at the Luther Point Bible Camp live auction



Almelund Farmers Market Began its 18th Season Friday, May 23rd at Rod's Country Corner! Come Friday afternoons from 3-6pm and check out the local items...annuals, perennials and garden plants, asparagus, rhubarb, eggs, maple syrup, honey, breads, jams/jellies, craft items and other goodies! Products change with the season. New vendors are encouraged and welcomed to join this fun community get-together. If interested, contact Pat @ 651-583-2100.

WELCOME To our newest member, Theodore Michael Jasmer, Born April 30, 2025, to Mikayla & Caleb Jasmer. Baptized on August 24, 2025.

STARTING SEPTEMBER 4TH

WISDOM SEEKERS

THURSDAYS AT 9:00AM

**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Youth Room, 1st floor**

Join us in exploring how history has influenced religion and how religion has influenced history. Since both of these topics are influenced by philosophy, we will explore that aspect of human thought as well. Discussion is open to all interested parties. This will be enriched by the open, unjudged, fascinating thoughts that will come to the surface as we compare theology, history, and philosophy.

See Jerry Rhoads with any questions

NOISY OFFERINGS ARE THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

We express our thanks to all those who provide special music with a Special Thank You to those who travel a distance to share their talents. We would like to show our appreciation by gifting these musicians with a gas card through the "Noisy Offerings". So - SAVE YOUR CHANGE and let's make a Joyful Noise Unto The Lord!!!!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

By end of day Monday, September 15; The third Monday of the month.

PROOFREADING:

Of newsletter @ 11:00 September 17; in the Fireside Room.

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY:

Will be Friday, September 19 @ 10:00 in the Fireside Room. Volunteers can fill newsletters with offering envelopes and labels for mailing.

Thank you for your help!

Mark Weslander

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, Sept. 7**, when congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service, “God’s work. Our hands.”

Participating in service projects is one way to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

We are a church that is energized by lively engagement in faith and life. As we continue our tradition of service, we remember the words of Martin Luther, **“Our faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing.”** With our hands, we do God’s work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ’s name.

If your congregation cannot participate on Sept. 7, you are encouraged to pick another date that fits your schedule. **ELCA congregations participate in acts of service every day.** This day of service is an extension of the work you already do to make your community a better place.

Be sure to save the date and check [ELCA.org/DayOfService](https://www.elca.org/DayOfService) for updated resources soon.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Join us on Sept. 7!

HOLY BIBLE

SAVE THE DATE

The Saint Paul Area Women's Synodical Organization invites you to our annual

Bible Study Enrichment

Previewing the 2025-2026 Bible Studies from the Gather Magazine
with Bible Study Leader Pastor Carrie Stiles

Saturday, September 20, 2025
St. Mark's Lutheran Church - North St. Paul

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM followed by lunch

All women are welcome!
Registration and more information will follow soon.

*The mission of Women of the ELCA is to
mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.*



October 12, 2025 2:30

Free will offering

Desserts and refreshments served after
program.

Everyone is invited to a hilarious comedy at:

Immanuel Lutheran Church
37515 Park Trail
Almelund, MN 55012

THANK YOU

I Thank everyone for your kindness, generosity and support. Every bit of help of any kind is extremely appreciated. Thank you again,

Jackson Thelander

Thank you to all the many people that helped make Bible School a great success. Thank you to all the enthusiastic children who came to learn.

Thank you to all who helped with VBS! It has been a fun week. Thanks to all who donated food, the serving groups for cooking and serving, all the volunteers for helping guide the kids each night through their activities, the activity leaders: Cami, Katie, Beth, Pastor Justin, Kristi, Momoh and all those that helped plan and decorate including those listed above as well as Diane, Jenny, Valerie and Julie Flodquist. All your help is greatly appreciated! Thank you to all families who were able to participate and celebrate Jesus with us!

- Christian Ed and the Immanuel VBS Group

VBS families donated 68 pounds of food that was taken to the North Branch and Chisago Lakes Food Shelves of Family Pathways! Way to go kids and families!

- Immanuel VBS Group

We had 20-30 kids join us each night for VBS! Thank you for coming and bringing your kids.

VBS families donated 68 pounds of food that was taken to the North Branch and Chisago Lakes Food Shelves of Family Pathways! Way to go kids and families! Thank you!

- Immanuel VBS Group

CALENDAR OF OBSERVANCES

Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407

Saturday, September 13, 2025

John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

Holy Cross Day

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961

Thursday, September 18, 2025

A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

Saturday, September 20, 2025

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Sunday, September 21, 2025

Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.

Michael and All Angels

Monday, September 29, 2025

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue
EACH SUNDAY 10:00 Coffee is Served	1 LABOR DAY 9:00-3:00 Office Hours	2 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team 2:30 Parish Care Meets 1:00 Stewardship Meets In the Fireside Room
7 HAY DAYS Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Green 9:00 Communion Worship Live and Online; W/Noisy Offering 11:00 First Lutheran Service	8 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 5:00 Property Meeting 6:00 Council Meeting	9 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team 10-2 Quilters meet W/potluck at noon 1:00 Apple Butter Making in kitchen
14 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Green 9:00 Worship Service 11:00 First Lutheran Service	15 9:00-3:00 Office Hours NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 10:00 WOW Practice 6:00 Chris. Ed.	16 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team 9:30 Naomi Circle Meets at Lois Ness' home 6:00 Choir Practice
21 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Green 9:00 Communion Worship Live and Online; No Coffee Time 11:00-4:00 Apple Festival 11:00 First Lutheran Service PICK-UP NEWSLETTERS	22 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 10:00 WOW Practice 6:00 Worship & Music Meeting	23 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team 6:00 Choir Practice
28 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Green 9:00 Rally Sunday W/WOW Worship Service Live and Online; Pancake Breakfast after service 11:00 First Lutheran Service	29 9:00-3:00 Office Hours	30 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 9:00 Worship Team 6:00 Choir Practice

Notes:

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 1:30 Prayer Shawl Meets 6:00 Youth Group Registration W/Parents	4 Bulletin Deadline	5 9:00-3:00 Office Hours; Bulletin Printed 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market	6 HAY DAYS
10 9:00-3:00 Office Hours	11 Bulletin Deadline	12 9:00-3:00 Office Hours; Bulletin Printed 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market	13
17 9:00-3:00 Office Hours 11:00 Newsletter is ready for proof reading in the Fireside room 1:30 Prayer Shawl Meets 6-7 Youth Group Meets	18 Bulletin Deadline 2:00 Apple Crisp Making in kitchen	19 Bulletin Printed 9:00-3:00 Office Hours; 10:00 Newsletter Assembly in the Fireside room 4:00 Apple Bread Pudding Making in kitchen 3-6 Almelund Farmer's Market	20
24 9:00-3:00 Office Hours	25 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Holy Smokes @ Wild Mtn. Winery	26 9:00-3:00 Office Hours; Bulletin Printed 3-6 LAST Almelund Farmer's Market	27

As you celebrate your Birthday, remember to celebrate your Spiritual Birthday each year. Light a candle to remember your Baptism, too. God Bless you on your special days!



1 Carol Carlson, Lainey Bauer

3 Ruth Ekstrom

6 DeeAnn Fredlund

9 Esther Tauer, Grace DeVault, Rachel Paavola

10 Jessica Bellin

11 Julie Flodquist, Jerry Meyer, Diann Huber

12 Jodi Johnson-Waldemar

13 John Brekke

16 Don Noyes, Katherine Flanery, Olivia Loso, Ella Loso

18 Lori Carr

20 Bryan Peterson

21 Carter Rothe, Steve Blomquist, Erin Tauer

22 Janet Johnson, Henry Larkin

25 Kris Koran, Zayden Thelander,

26 Gene Fisk, Tammy Johnson, Andrea Boyer, Nancy Nadeau, Ida Johnson

27 Henry Cook

28 Brianna Mohn

29 Jesiah Peltier

30 Kate DeVault

Thank you to those helping with the Worship Services!

	Sep 7	Sep 14	Sep 21	Sep 28		
Scripture Reader	Mitchell Lutz	Vada Fenger	Dianne Wiik	Lori Blomquist		
Ushers	Marty & Jody Johnson	Marty & Jody Johnson	Marty & Jody Johnson	Marty & Jody Johnson		
Sound Tech	Dave Rue	Loraine Rue	Nancy Nadeau	Julie Johnson		
Camera Tech	Matt Oknich	Dave Rue	Jodi Johnson-Waldemar	Vern Johnson		
Children's Sermon						
Coffee Servers		Linda Peterson & Joanne Johnson	Apple Festival	Men's ILC Pancake Breakfast		
Teachers	No Sunday School	No Sunday School	No Sunday School	RALLY SUNDAY		

Communion Servers:

Sunday, Sep 7th - Clay Ryberg, Julie Johnson, Julie Weller
Sunday, Sep 21st - Norm Peterson, Amanda Cook, Clay Larson

Communion Wine - Wild Mountain Winery

Communion Wafers now used

Reader Coordinator **September:** Lynn Schultz

Altar Guild: **September:** Jeske Noordergraaf

Financial Recorder's Report for Year to Date of July 2025

Code	Fund	31-Jul	YTD 2025	YTD 2024
1	GENERAL	\$ 13,054.98	\$ 106,755.36	\$ 105,171.37
2	UNDESIGNATED	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 1,281.25
3	SYNOD	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,450.00
4	LUTHER POINT	\$ 3.00	\$ 261.25	\$ 340.00
5	LUTH. SOC. SERV.	\$-	\$ 120.00	\$ 77.00
6	ITONYA TANZANIA MISSION	\$-	\$ 505.00	\$ 350.00
7	WORLD HUNGER	\$-	\$ 50.00	
10	LOOSE	\$ 299.00	\$ 3,762.50	\$ 2,640.13
11	FELLOWSHIP DINNERS	\$-	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 1,601.69
12	LENT	\$-	\$ 534.00	\$ 1,020.00
13	MAUNDY THURSDAY	\$-	\$ 25.00	\$ 40.00
14	GOOD FRIDAY	\$-	\$ 48.00	\$ 60.00
15	EASTER	\$-	\$ 1,003.00	\$ 808.00
18	USE OF CHURCH	\$-	\$ 920.00	\$ 790.50
20	NOISY OFFERING	\$ 80.20	\$ 1,384.06	\$ 863.54
21	BUILDING FUND	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,333.47	\$ 1,872.00
22	CdFee	\$ 13.65	\$ 85.45	\$ 120.45
24	CHRISTIAN ED	\$-	\$ 195.00	\$-
26	SHARE MINISTRY	\$ 2,130.00	\$ 13,290.00	\$-
27	Grants	\$-	\$ 760.00	\$-
30	YOUTH GROUP	\$-	\$ 150.00	
31	YOUTH MISSION TRIP	\$-	\$ 2.00	\$-
34	WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$-	\$ 25.00	\$ 56.25
36	QUILTERS MINISTRY	\$-	\$ 302.00	
40	FOOD SHELF	\$-	\$ 25.00	\$-
50	ENDOWMENT FUND	\$-	\$ 31.25	\$ 50.00
60	SPECIAL DONATIONS	\$-	\$ 893.20	\$ 2,525.72
90	MEMORIAL	\$-	\$ 100.00	
91	MEMORIAL GARDEN	\$-	\$ 2,605.00	\$ 1,220.00
97	Fund Transfers	\$-	\$ 6,544.04	
	Totals	\$ 16,580.83	\$ 148,198.58	\$ 123,337.90



TITHES & OFFERINGS

Thank you so much for your financial gifts which support Immanuel's ministry. We ask you to prayerfully do what you can to support Immanuel's mission.

Give in Person

When you attend worship in person, you are welcome to place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed during the service. Offering envelopes, like the one included in this newsletter, are available in the pews.

Give by Mail

You can also mail your offering to the church, using the offering envelope provided in this newsletter at:

Immanuel Lutheran Church
37515 Park Trail
Almelund, MN 55012

Give Online

Giving through our website is a quick and easy way for you to give and for the church to receive your gift. Go to www.ImmanuelAlmelund.com and click on "Make a Gift." You can designate how you want it used and if you want to make a one-time gift or ongoing contribution. It is recorded just as if you had placed it in the offering plate. Whatever way you give your gifts, thank you for your support of Immanuel's ministry. We couldn't do it without you!

Stewardship Committee Meeting-August 5, 2025

Members Present: Julie Weller, Kris Koran, Linda Peterson, Sharon Thiel, Natalee Oknich, Cami Peltier

Devotions: Sharon

Approval of Agenda and Secretary's Report

Business: A new yearly paper directory will be put out similar to the ones we had several years ago. The stewardship committee will update the old one and revise it. This will be a better attempt to communicate with our members and our community. Other means of communication discussed were getting all leaders engaged and getting feedback from everyone. Changes to the bulletin and Messenger were also looked at.

Next Meeting; September 2nd, at 1 pm

Property Committee Minutes August 11, 2025

Present : Marlin Ness, Julie Weller, Don Noyes, David Rue, Harlin Carlson Norm Peterson, Perry Lindberg, Scott Olson

Called to order @ 5:05 By Marlin

Old Business

- Discussion of old office renovation

- Discussion of railing in stairs need to be replaced or repaired - Norm was going to look into.

- Discussion of what renovation of office to be used for - primarily service related items

- Old kitchen renovation

Waiting for designer report -Ken Johnson who was there couple weeks ago and inspected the kitchen

Bob Rothe had scandia plumbing come and look at rerouting piping - waiting on bid

- Discussion on retaining wall on east drive way .

New Business

- Suggested purchasing 2 dehumidifiers for old basement

- Discussion of archive items in old office & other archive items whereabouts, The need to find designated place .

Perry & Norm are willing to form archive group & looking for anyone else to volunteer to form a group.

Motion was Made by Marlin to adjourn @5:44 seconded by Don

Submitted By Perry Lindberg

Memorial Committee Meeting Minutes August 11th, 2025

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM by Chair Gwen Swenson

Present: Joanne Johnson, Jody Johnson, Vickie Johnson, Ashley Larkin, Connie Linder, Gwen Swenson, and Clay Ryberg (Church Council Representative) Minutes of the May 4th meeting were approved, the Treasurer's report was accepted.

Old Business: Treasurer released funds for one scholarship from the 2024-2025 school year since our May meeting. A request for payment for the repair/replacement of carpet tiles in the Fellowship Hall has not yet been received by the Treasurer. These funds were approved for disbursement by Memorial Committee in May. Clay will follow-up with Council to see if this expense was paid from a different fund. Joanne received the list of all Baptisms performed at Immanuel Lutheran since 2013 from Mark. She will draft a cover letter to go out to parents of children baptized since the Mission Investment program was halted sometime during that 2013-2014 time frame. Parents will be given a 3-month window of time to submit the necessary documents for those previously baptized children to receive the \$50 Mission Investment fund donation sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran. A notice/explanation will be submitted for inclusion in the October newsletter. Going forward, parents of children baptized at Immanuel will be given the opportunity to register their child for the Mission Investment fund at the time of their baptism and receive this initial \$50 investment donation from Immanuel.. Committee approved a final draft for the hand-out requested by Stewardship to be distributed later this year during Lamp Post Sunday activities. A copy will be forwarded to Pastor.

New Business: Vickie will follow-up with Mark to ensure he has the most current information for donation categories to be included in the All Saints Day donation form.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM Next meeting dates are scheduled as follows: Monday, November 10th at 5:00 PM (Fireside Room); Sunday, January 25th at 10:15 AM following worship (Fireside Room)

Worship & Music Minutes ~ July 28, 2025

Present: Pastor Justin, Tora Carlson, Momoh Freeman, Dayna Geisbauer, Diann Huber, Julie Johnson (Council Rep), Nicki Klanderud, Pam Larson, Kim Raschke, Pat Remer

Absent: Beth Berger (Council Rep)

Tora called the meeting to order – Nicki gave devotions.

Reviewed June 23rd minutes – MSP to accept.

Old Business:

Children's Sermons: – Pastor Justin continues during summer months.

Recap Worship Services/Events:

- June 29...9:00 ILC Worship/Healing Service/PIE DAY!! Thanks to Tora for this special treat – made 10 pies with about 1 pie leftover...11:00, FLC
- July 6...9:00 ILC Patriotic Worship Service/Communion/Noisy Offering [**\$80.20**]/Special Music by Johnny Russell which is always so powerful...11:00, FLC
- July 10-13...Chisago County Fair!! Immanuel Members did well!
- July 13...11:00 Worship Service at Wild Mountain Winery with Sunrise River Trio – 1 service for both churches. Great Service – Great Potluck – Great Fellowship!!!
- July 19...Pastor Justin left for Ghana/gone until July 26th – good experience but glad to be home!
- July 20...9:00 ILC Worship/Communion ...11:00, FLC - Pastor Justin, gone – Rev. Mark Hillmer, Stillwater - pulpit supply @ both churches.
- July 27...9:00 ILC Worship...11:00, FLC
- July 27...2:00 Ecumen Worship - ILC leads this service the 4th Sunday of the month.

Upcoming Dates:

- July 31...6:30 Holy Smokes @ Winery
- August 3...9:00 ILC Worship/Communion/Noisy Offering...11:00, FLC
- August 4 - 9...Pastor Justin will be participating in a Chaplain Professional Development workshop
- August 10...9:00 Threshing Show Worship – Jon needs help in finding an accordion player & drummer...11:00, FLC
- August 11-14...Vacation Bible School
- August 17...9:00 ILC with Bishop Patricia Lull/Special Collection “Planting For Hope” (helps fund Campus Ministry & Pastor Debt

- Retirement) - VBS Sunday/Luminary Dedication/Communion...11:00, FLC with Bishop Lull
- August 24...9:00 ILC Worship/Baptism of Mikayla Johnson-Jasper & Caleb Jasper's child ...11:00, FLC
- August 24...2:00 Ecumen Worship with Pastor Justin. ILC leads service 4th Sunday of the month.
- August 28...6:30 Holy Smokes @ Winery
- August 31...9:00 ILC /WOW Worship/Service of Healing...11:00, FLC – MAY have Service of Healing, also
- Hay Days, September 6 & 7
- September 7...9:00 ILC Worship/Communion/Noisy Offering...11:00, FLC
- September 14...9:00 ILC Worship/Baptism of Dana & Dana Johnson's grandchild...11:00, FLC
- September 16...6:00, Tuesday-Joint Choir Rehearsals Begin
- September 21...9:00 ILC Worship/Communion...11:00, FLC
- September 21...Apple Festival, 11-4:00
- September 25...6:30 Holy Smokes @ Winery
- September 28...ILC Worship/Rally Sunday/Men of Immanuel Pancake Breakfast – Pat will ask the guys ...11:00, FLC
- September 28...2:00 Ecumen Worship with Pastor Justin. ILC leads service 4th Sunday of the month.

Message Board – Scott & Kim feel the vinyl insert is beyond their ability – Kim offered to reach out to Gateway Sign in Stacy to see what they could do. Jason's company would also do an insert, if needed. Clay will weld and re-anchor the rusting letters that are starting to break away from the brick.

TV to be raised and attached to the wall & Installation of a large close-circuit choir TV – August 13 or 14th.

Sampler – LeeAnn is available for either February 22, 2026 or March 1, 2026. **Decided on March 1, 2026.** Looking at 1:00 Concert – 2:30, Live Auction – Worship & Music to serve coffee and desserts.

Concert: would need an MC. Would like to hear Trinity Lutheran Band, Lindstrom play more.

Auction: Need to start working on donations. Diann could ask Taylors Falls area businesses.

Concert & Auction Monies: In the past, the donations would go to General Fund. Would like to use this money to benefit the community - What are Community Needs?

Museum Grounds:

Movies at the Log Barn – would Tracy be interested in doing this?
Wondering if he has a popcorn or snow-cone machine:

Township Needs – will get help from Immanuel to set up the
basketball hoop in Triangle Park

Help fund entertainment for the Apple Festival (Pastor Justin & Pat
talked about this 7-29-25).

*we all should come back to August meeting with suggestions as to
where the monies could go.

New Business:

Worship Team - Service formats/hymns are done through August 17.
Becky Hulden, First Lutheran/TF has been attending meetings – helpful in
planning Worship Services for both churches! Angie, TF church secretary,
may also attend when able.

Prayer Concerns:

Pastor Justin led us in prayer for all concerns mentioned.

Next Scheduled Meeting: August 25, 2025

Devotions: Pam

Christian Ed meets on, August 20th after newsletter printing.

Immanuel Lutheran- Church Council Meeting 8/11/25, 6pm

Attendees: Amanda Cook, Clay Larson, Jeff Lutz, Julie Johnson, Clay
Ryberg, Norm Peterson, and Julie Weller.

Absent: Pastor Justin and Beth Berger

Devotion Lead by: Jeff Lutz

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Approved as submitted

Old Business:

No change from last month

New Business:

Council approved: The Property Committees recommendation to
purchase two dehumidifiers with two 25ft hoses for each end of the old
basement.

Council approved: Carlie from First Lutheran to build our pre-worship announcement for Sunday services. This will offset Mark's workload. She will be paid \$1747 yearly for this service. The funds will come from Shared Ministry.

The Council agreed to accept the committee reports.

Offering Securer:

September 7th- Julie Weller
September 14th-Julie Johnson
September 21st-Clay Ryberg
September 28th-Julie Weller

Communion Servers:

September 7th-Julie Johnson, Julie Weller, and Clay Ryberg
September 21st-Clay Larson, Norm Peterson and Amanda Cook

Devotions for next month's Council Meeting-Norm Peterson

Meeting closed at 6:45pm with the Lord's Prayer

Immanuel Lutheran Church September 2025

37515 Park Trail
Almelund, MN 55012-7511
Change Service Requested

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Companion to Itonya Congregation -
Tanzania, Africa

Contact Info: 651-583-2340; office@immanuelalmelund.com
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Pastor: Justin Fenger 651-308-7717; pastor@immanuelalmelund.com

Administrative Assistant/Financial Recorder:

Mark Weslander 651-431-8941; office@immanuelalmelund.com

Financial Secretary: Kyle Hendrickson

651-717-8804; financial@immanuelalmelund.com

Custodial: Kim's Kleaning

Organist/Choral Director: Momoh Freeman

Accompanist: Pat Remer

Cemetery Groundskeeper: Daryl Abrahamson
(651)674-2419; julie.l.abrahamson@gmail.com

Youth Group: Jason Fredlund 651-208-5915;

DeeDee Fredlund 651-206-1190

Sunday School: Teresa Carlson 651-214-9531

Our Mission Statement:

**A welcoming community rooted in Christ,
Growing in faith and serving with joy!**

Non-Profit
Organization
Permit #5
Center City, MN
55012