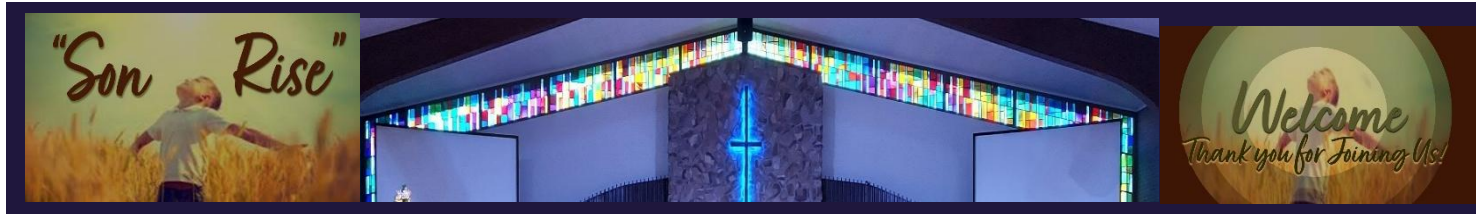




Friday, November 15, 2025

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN LEADERSHIP WEEKLY



Sunday Worship and Learning Schedule Sunday, November 16, 2025

8:30 am - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
9:30 am – Education Hour
Pastor Led Bible Study and “The Rock” Sunday School
10:45 am – Praise Worship with Holy Communion

email:

ilc@immanuelbridgman.org

*Most of our Worship Services are streamed Live on Facebook [Immanuel Lutheran Church Bridgman](#), or are posted on our website: www.immanuelbridgman.org



Immanuel Lutheran Ministries
9650 N. Church St.,
Bridgman, MI 49106
269-465-6031 Church Office

A weekly publication of our announcements from our church leadership, staff and Early Childhood Development Center of Bridgman

AS WE GATHER

This morning, and next Sunday, as we come to the end of this church year, we will focus our attention the last book of the Old Testament, the book of Malachi. As the prophet looks into the future across four-hundred years of silence, across four centuries of the LORD providing no additional inspired writing, Malachi sees the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. The prophet likens the glory of the Messiah, and the beauty of the Gospel, to the sun in the sky – a sun that brings healing to those on who it shines. May we join Malachi in seeing with the eyes of faith that Jesus is “the sun of righteousness” who has risen “with healing in its wings.”

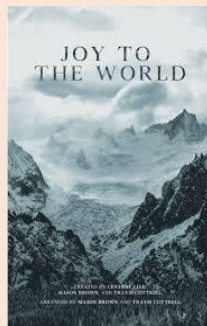
CHURCH NEWS

Voluntary 2026 Pledge ~ Thank you for attending our annual Voters’ meeting which culminated in an approved 2026 budget. We have many concerns which were shared at that meeting with plans to address these issues at the board meetings. One motion in particular stands out. We are asking congregation members to offer their voluntary pledge for donations in the year 2026. This voluntary pledge will be between you and the Lord. We are asking that during the Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on November 26th at 6:00 pm, you take a pledge slip and fill out your pledge for the 2026 church year. It will be sealed in a pledge envelope and kept sealed until the middle of 2026, when it will be given back to you by our Finance Board, for you to determine if you are on track with your pledge. We pray that you will consider filling out a pledge slip in gratitude for all of the gifts that God has given you!

The Service of Sacrament *God Comes to Us in the Lord’s Supper, and We Testify Together to This Gift*

Definition – The Service of the Word revolves around hearing God’s Word read and preached. The Service of the Sacrament revolves around receiving God’s Word “in, with and under” bread and wine, that is, that is, the Lord’s Supper. A Sacrament is a gift from God that combines His Word with a physical element, in this case bread and wine, and the forgiveness of sins. **The**

Preface – “The Lord be with you. And with Thy Spirit” (2Timothy 4:22) prepares us to eat this feast. The Preface acknowledges the pastor’s authority from God to distribute this meal to God’s people (1Corinthians 4:1). While the pastor’s task is acknowledged, our attention is directed “to things above”. The pastor admonishes the people to “lift up your hearts”, echoing the words of Lamentations 3:41 and Colossians 3:1-2. We respond, “We lift them up unto the Lord”. We then move into the Proper Preface, adding to the daily thanksgiving a seasonal focus. This preface will change accord to the Sunday of the Church Year. The Proper Preface concludes with the words, “with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven.” We give thanks and praise therefore, with all the hosts of heaven. And what do these angels and saints who died before us sing? The sing the song of heaven, the “Holy, Holy, Holy” (Isaiah 6:1-7, Revelation 4:1-11). By singing the song of heaven here, we acknowledge God’s unique presence in the Sacrament as we approach it with all reverence and fear.



G. L. Wasko & Sons family owned transportation and warehousing company that now includes the third generation of the Wasko family. We think of ourselves as "your dedicated carrier" because we are dedicated to treating our customers like we treat each other, with respect.

Thank you to our fabulous Outreach Board especially Suellen Klein for all of their time and talents putting together the Operation Christmas Child boxes. As you know this mission is so very important because it shares the love of Christ with children across the world that may not know about our God! These boxes give children their first glimpse of salvation that is offered to us through Jesus Christ. Our congregation really stepped up this year and donated so many items for those boxes that we collected enough items to fill 108 boxes! Well done Immanuel! Not only did you provide the items, but you helped raise the necessary funds to send those boxes to children all over the world. Your generosity and love will go a long way to reach those people who are thirsty to learn about God!

Thank you to Jeannine Marks for her lovely solo for our 8:30 am service today. We appreciate you for sharing your time and talents with us to praise our Lord!

Additional Thank you to Susan Foster for offering her beautiful piano solo for communion, this allows our organist to communion with the rest of the congregation. You are so generous to share your talents with us!

Dear BTW Friends!

Unfortunately, we will not be sharing our joy of the season this year through Beyond the Walls. We did not have enough people come for practice last week to enable us to offer our Advent musical "Joy to the World" this season. Every year we offer a musical to share with people who are not able to leave their living space to enjoy churches and interact with other people. We hope to offer our musical during the Lenten Season in 2026, we hope you will join us in this mission.

Can You Believe Advent Begins in Two Short Weeks? Join us **December 3rd, 10th, and 17th for our Advent Midweek Services.** One service will be a traditional service at 12:15 pm and a light luncheon following the service. The evening service will be the same format as last year. You can come and enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by our members at 5:00 pm and then starting at 6:00 pm, we will enjoy viewing a short, movie from Lutheran Hour Ministries surrounding our Advent season. Pastor Kregel will have some discussion questions for us to stimulate discussion among groups. We hope you will take this opportunity to prepare your heart at one of our worship services for the advent of our Lord and Savior!

We are looking for families, individuals or groups of people to provide our **Midweek Advent Meals:** Light lunches will be served after the 12:15 pm worship service and/or light suppers at 5 p.m. before the 6 p.m. service. If you would like to host a lunch or supper, please sign up on the sheets located on the table in the narthex. These meals are a great way to enjoy fellowship and prepare for the coming of our Lord!

Mark the date Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service will be on **Wednesday, December 24th at 3:00 pm.** This will be a very special worship service filled with praising God through song sharing our love and joy at the birth of our Savior! We will start the service early at 2:30 pm with the congregation shouting out hymns that are also familiar carols. Pastor will announce which hymn we are singing and our invaluable Pastor Fischer at the organ will play that chosen hymn to usher in this very special candlelight worship service. There will be only one service this very special day, so we hope you will join us in this candlelight service, created to celebrate the coming of our Lord and Savior.



Are You Interested? We are asking your opinion about a new church directory. Would you be interested in having a professional photographic portrait done of you as an individual or your family for a new church directory? Please sign your name up on the sign up sheet on the table in the narthex. The more interested parties, the more likely we can get a new church directory.

ECDC NEWS

With the excitement of Halloween over, the students are going back to the business of learning. They are all busy working on their Thanksgiving Songs and making decorations for the tables for their famous Thanksgiving Feast coming up on November 25th. They are also practicing for the Children's Christmas Program on December 14th. Whew! Thank you, teachers, for working so hard to teach our students.

Our infant room was busy with studying emotions this week. They explored books about emotions and feelings. They made the color purple by squishing the colors blue and red in a plastic baggie until the colors changed to a cohesive purple. They painted a square picture purple with paint dots. Teacher, Ms. Maegan is proudly showing this art piece. Their Bible story this week was God Made Everything with the puppet Leo the Lion telling the story. They created a puppet play about emotions and practiced their baby sign for the week "Good-Bye".

The Toddler Room was very busy learning about baking Bread. They made mini fruit pizzas and a dough which formed into a kind of churros, which the toddlers totally enjoyed eating. They made leaf garland to decorate their room and water colored a leaf shape to decorate their windows in their room.

They worked on their gross motor skills by throwing pompoms at tape hanging on their walls, trying to get the pompoms to stick to the tape. Their Bible story focused on thankfulness, describing Miriam's thankfulness to God for their seeming escape from Egypt and Pharaoh's army. What a great lesson in thankfulness!

Our Great Start to Readiness Program enjoyed a field trip with our preschool students to the Sarett Nature Center, they got a chance to look at trees that live at the Nature Center and walked the paths looking at what the nature center has to offer. They practiced their parts in the Christmas play, learned a few new letters, worked on shape identification and their properties, talked about their wonderful Fall Party and wrote about the party in their journals.

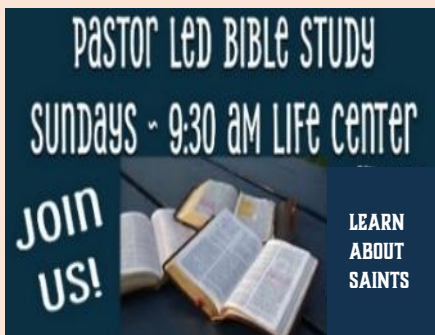
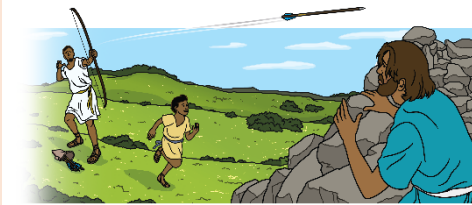
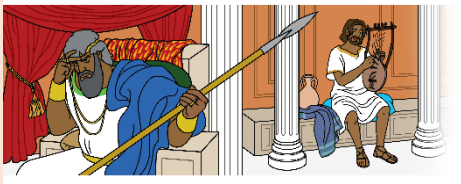
They also enjoyed the bus trip to the nature center, some children have never ridden on a bus before, great experience for them and really perfect experiences to write about.

Our Early Learners' Classroom worked on the letter "M" by making a mouse they also created very colorful and beautiful suncatcher leaves for their classroom window. They made placemats for their Thanksgiving Feast which say "Hand Picked By God" using their handprint for a pumpkin, very creative. Their Bible story for this week was about Abraham and Sarah.

Wonderful experiences this week for our preschool rooms!

Our Skill Builders' classroom was back on schedule after their review week. They learned the letter "T", their shape was a rhombus, their number was "5" and their color was purple, Ms. Stevie's favorite color. They enjoyed their trip to the Sarett Nature Center, learning about all the plants and animals that live in Michigan forests. They began their study of Community Helpers and talked about bicycle safety and how the police help us to stay safe. Their Bible story was Moses as a baby and what he had to go through to survive. They worked on the Christmas program songs and also their Thanksgiving Feast song, they will show their families what great singers they are for both performances! Our wonderful staff and teachers are also busy preparing for Parent/Teacher Conferences next week. This is their opportunity to let the parents know how their student is doing and what they are achieving here at Immanuel's ECDC. We really are so blessed with wonderful teachers and staff that go the extra distance to help these young ones learn.

Kids! Join us!
"The Rock"
 Sunday School
 New Time 9:30 am



"The Rock" Sunday School

Today at The Rock, we are learning about 1 Samuel 18-20. David was a brave and talented warrior who had become very famous. He was known for his great victories, especially his battle against the giant Goliath.

David's best friend was Jonathan, the son of King Saul. They shared a special bond and were like brothers. As David's fame grew, King Saul became increasingly jealous, leading him to hunt David and attempt to destroy him. In his anger, Saul even threw spears at David! Recognizing the danger, Jonathan warned his friend, saying, "You need to be careful; my father is very upset." To protect David, they created a secret signal with arrows: if Jonathan shot an arrow far into the field and called out, it meant David should flee to safety. Despite Saul's pursuit, God protected David and his men. Although David had chances to harm Saul, he chose to trust God and wait for the right time to receive the kingdom. One day, Jonathan shot an arrow deep into the distance and shouted, "The arrows are beyond you!" David understood it was time to leave for his safety. Though it was hard to say goodbye, their strong friendship endured. David became a great leader, always remembering Jonathan's loyalty.

LUTHERAN'S WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE NEWS

LWML Annual Cookie Sale: The annual cookie sale is approaching fast. This year's date for the sale is Sunday, **December 14th** before and after both worship services. We need your cookies to continue making this a huge success. Any kind of cookie would be fabulous, if you can manage two dozen cookies we will feel blessed! Last year we had a sell out with some individuals wanting to buy more...so we need even more of your great homemade cookies this year. Packing of the cookies is Saturday, December 13th at 10:00am. Thank you in advance for your help. God's blessings to all you talented cookie bakers!

Ladies Our Advent Tea will be on **Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 pm in our Life Center.** Our theme this year is "Come To My Heart, Lord Jesus" where we will enjoy a traditional tea with our hostesses providing a refreshment for their table. Decorations are up to the hostess and the LWML will share special gifts with all of the participants. We will enjoy a short skit in honor of the birth of our Lord. If you would like to be a hostess for an Advent Tea table or would like to partner with another hostess for one table, please sign your name on the sign-up sheets on the table in the narthex. If you would like to join us for the Advent Tea, please sign your name on the attendance sheet for the event indicating which table you would like to sit at. This event has always been a relaxing, joyous time filled with fellowship, won't you please consider joining us? Sign up today!

"Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study: Starting at 9:30 AM on Sundays in the Family Life Center, Pastor Krenzel will lead a Bible Study about the Saints. This topic was requested by those currently attending the Bible study hour."

Church Advent Decorating We hope you can join us on **Saturday, November 29th at 9:00 am** as we set up our Christmas Tree and decorate the sanctuary for the Advent Season. Many hands make light the work, we hope you will take some time out of your Saturday to help the church look festive for Advent.

DID YOU KNOW? There is an easy way to give your offering! You can go to www.immanuelbridgman.org and give your offering via our electronic giving. Check it out today!



Homebound and Continuing Care Facilities

Homebound: Dollie Schmaltz, Edith Weed, Edna Holt, Irwin and Margaret Poschke, Terry Graves, Kay Cornwell, Joanne Argue, Harry Rock, and Elizabeth Rock

Continuing Care Facilities: Pat Ott, Geraldine Wooley, Don Metzger, Norma Linn, Marylou Svorec (out of state), Rose Briggs, Dorothea Crocker, Bill Gast, Duane Vigansky, Harriet Fester, Dave Arndt, and Marion Winter,

For information on how to connect with our church family please call the church office at 269-465-6031

Prayers of the Church for Today

John Stine

Lou Kendrick (Lisa Bassett's brother with cancer)

Karen Burger (Pat Stelter's sister recovering from surgery)

Family and Friends of Ken Dickinson

Family and Friends of Linda Totzke

Family and Friends of Frank Jeffrey Taylor (Elizabeth Emery's Step Father)

Pastor Krengel, Elder Mark Heyn, Chris Damaske, Elder Paul Jaeger and Deb Jaeger, and Betty Korcek, visited this week:

Healing Needs for the Month

Denny Lawrenz, Vicki Ott, Paul Graves, Dave Kramer, Cameron Magro, Gerald Kuhn, Alex Varvel, Craig Wendzel, Georgia Hildebrandt, Darrell Gast, Brett Germain, Sharon Korcek, Jim Benjamin, Karl Kaeding, Carla Weiser, Jeff Rodewald, Debbie Miller, Natalya Gaidukevich, Christie Ott Hartzler, Janet Lamb, Alex Dixon, Beth Vigansky Ciuizio, Andy Benjamin, Pastor Carl Bassett, Leon Schmaltz, John Stine, Jeffrey Nemitz, Harriet Fester, Marilyn Gelesko, Tom Ulmer, Roger Mojsiejenko, Terry Graves, Irwin & Margaret Poschke, Dick Gorske,

Serving in the Military

USN Military Police Brady Leimbach, Specialist Isaac Maze (Army) SFC Casey LeFever, Maj. Kenneth Stice, Nathan Anderson, MM1 Timothy Ott, Jacob Lomoro, Devin Hays (Army Reserve), Tom Shepard, Dan Woodruff, SPC David Helfman, Arthur Gatchel, Ryan Skibbe, MAJ Joe Chappel, FN Sebastian Kirk MMN3

Please keep in your prayers USN Military Police, Brady Leimbach (Larry and Vicki Ott's Grandson) who is being deployed.

Finance News

November 9, 2025 offerings and donations:

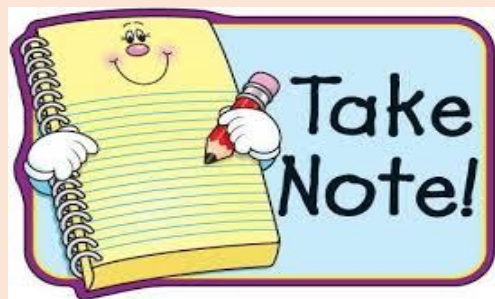
Offering Envelopes: \$2,611.00 Year to date: \$293,277.00

Thank you to those that give their offerings when absent on Sunday.



*Call Oldenburg Excavating
for all your Digging Needs!
269-426-4519*





Special Days

Birthdays: Erica Hettlinger (11-16), Suellen Klein (11-16), Aurora Nitz (11-17), Rylynn Hein (11-17), Katherine Oldenburg (11-18), Larry Ott (11-19), Alexander Tjader (11-20), Kendall Wark (11-20), Stacey Allmond (11-20), William Ott (11-20),

Anniversaries: Scott & Samantha Illich on November 20th, 12 Years Ago

THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL

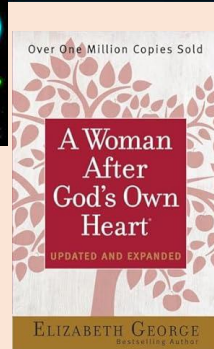
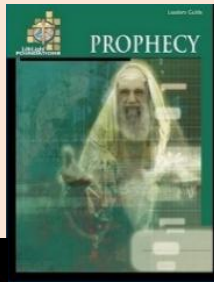
- Sun. Nov. 16th** - Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion – 8:30 am
 Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study 9:30 am
 “The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
 Praise Worship Service with Holy Communion – 10:45 am
- Mon. Nov. 17th** - Bible Study led by Gerry Vigansky – 10am
 Handbell Choir Practice – 6:00 pm
 AA Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Tues. Nov. 18th** – Spiritual Council Meeting – 6:00 pm
 Business Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
- Wed. Nov. 19th** – Children’s Chapel – 9:15 am
 Wednesday Bible Study led by Elsie Hanke 10am
 Midweek Evening Family Worship - 6:00 pm
 Elders Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
 Choir Practice – 7:00 pm
- Thurs. Nov. 20th** - Breakfast with Jesus at Rochefort’s – 8am
 Praise Worship Practice – 6:30 pm
- Sun. Nov. 23rd** – Divine Worship Service - 8:30 am
 Education Hour Pastor Led Bible Study 9:30am
 “The Rock” Sunday School – 9:30 am
 Praise Worship Service – 10:45 am

Noteworthy Dates in the Next Few Weeks

- ♥ Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service – Wednesday, November 26th at 6:00 pm
- ♥ Decorating Event for Advent – Saturday, November 29th at 9:00 am
- ♥ Advent Midweek Services – Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th and 17th at 12:15 pm and 6:00 pm
- ♥ Holiday Village Pop-up – Saturday, December 6th, 1-5pm in our gymnasium
- ♥ Christmas Cantata Unity Service – Sunday, December 7th one worship service at 10:00 am.
- ♥ Christmas Children’s Program – Sunday, December 14th at 10:45 am

Need to make an appointment with Pastor Krengel? You are invited to call him on his cell phone at **832-257-5437** or email him at krengeld@gmail.com. Pastor Krengel has posted his hours on his office door.

Thrivent Choice Dollars are available to Thrivent Financial customers and you can assign your choice dollars to any non-profit organization you choose. Please look at your benefit statement and assign your choice dollars every 3 months to the non-profit of your choice. Make your money work for you! Thank you for your generosity in sharing your gifts with people helping people!



We Have Some Really Great Bible Studies here at Immanuel! **Pastor Krengel is offering a Bible Study during our new Education Hour on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Life Center.** In addition, every Thursday morning at 8:00 am Breakfast with Jesus meets at Rochefort's in Bridgman. Please take advantage of a bible class on Monday mornings at 10:00 led by Gerry Vigansky and on Wednesday mornings Elsie Hanke leads a Bible class at 10:00 am and they are studying "A Women After God's Heart". In addition, Men's Network Breakfast is on the third Saturday of each month and a great opportunity for men to come together to study many aspects of our faith in addition to a delicious breakfast made by men for men. Why not spend an hour or two out of your week to join these wonderful learning opportunities!

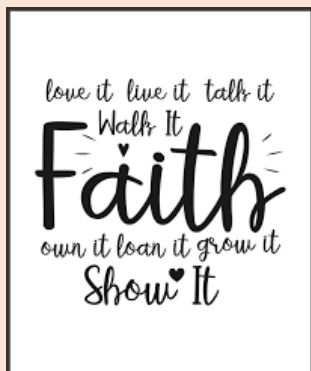
Thank you to Susan Foster, Ellen Yeske and Cheryl Music for using your time and talents helping to put away and organize the Share Closet. We have had many blessed donations in the last few months and we appreciate you spending your time hanging, folding and organizing the closet so the "shoppers" can see all the wonderful items. You are a blessing to this mission!

Poinsettias for Christmas are ready to be ordered! Can you believe we are looking at ordering our poinsettias for the Advent Season already? If you would like to order a poinsettia plant to honor a loved one and to help us make the sanctuary look festive for the Advent Season, please pick up your form on the table in the narthex. The plants are 6 1/2" pots and are \$8 each. All dedication forms must be completed and turned into the church office by December 21st. Thank you for showing your love for your family and friends by placing a plant in the altar area.

Bridges: Connecting God's Love from Sunday School to Our Seniors Bridges is more than just a new name; it's a heartfelt initiative designed to foster connections between the children at The Rock and the senior members of our church community. This program aims to bridge generations by creating delightful take-home treats and engaging projects that will be shared during visits to church members who are homebound. In previous years, The Rock has brought joy and warmth to our seniors by making thoughtful gifts for holiday celebrations, including Christmas presents, Valentine's treats, Easter goodies, and summer activity packets. Now, we proudly adopt the "Bridges" name as our mission—uniting youth and seniors through the gift of God's love and creativity.

Do you love the scriptures? We are looking for lay readers for our 8:30 am worship service. Some of our readers have taken a step back from reading the scriptures during worship services and we are looking for some people to serve as readers each Sunday. We accommodate comfort levels of all our readers. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact the church office at 465-6031. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Holiday Village will be **Saturday, December 6th**. We will host the Holiday Market in our gymnasium, sell some delicious food for the shoppers, bake some delicious treats to sell to the shopper, and offer a prayer table for those in need. Anyone who would like to volunteer their time for the Holiday Village Pop-Up, please contact the Outreach Board. Please mark this special date and join in the festivities!



Those Serving in Church This Week

Greeters: Rydwelski and Berk Families (8:30 am); Immanuel's Praise Team (10:45 am)

Ushers: Don Burch, Brad Hildebrandt, Dave Neal, Paul Jaeger, Joe Rydwelski, and Larry Smith

Lay Reader: Ilene Nemitz

Soloist: Jeannine Marks

Piano Accompanist: Pastor Tom Fischer

Piano Soloist: Susan Foster

Praise Team: Team Leader, Deb Jaeger; Rich Kubsch, Mark Heyn, Karen Kerlikowske, Lori Sukupchak, Sharon Stine, Melissa Barker, Pattie Neal, and Shannah Smith

Guitarists: John "Mac" McElligott, Kurt Hanke

Praise Speaker: Shannah Smith

Keyboardist/Guitarist: Kunwarjit Sigh Multani "Sid" & Lanny Duffel

Altar Guild: Judy Roush, Kathy Hanke, Diane Kanous and Bev Barnes

A/V Techs: Chad Hettig, Lucas Oldenburg, Cyndi Pedde, Pattie Neal, Steve Schmitz, Karl Hanke Brianna Schmitz and Eric Kubsch

Counters: Karen Pedde, Craig Klein, Karen Oldenburg, Carol Berndt and Cheryl Music

Office Assistants: Lorraine Jasper, Melissa Barker, Suellen Klein,

Trustees: Joe Rydwelski, Dale Marschke, Art Brunke, Brad Hildebrandt and Paul Jaeger

Elders: Larry Kanous, Denny Barnes, Paul Jaeger, Mark Heyn, Eric Ott, Steve Schmitz

Organist: Pastor Thomas Fischer

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Douglas Krengel

Greeters needed for 2026! It's time again, to round up volunteer Greeters for next year. If you were a Greeter in 2025, we'd love to have you continue. If you need a break, we understand and if you'd like to join our happy group, we will welcome you with open arms! There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you can let Sherry Vonk know. Her cell phone is 269-208-4323 (text or call) and email is glwasko@aol.com. We ask that volunteers arrive by 8:00 am on the Sunday you are scheduled. If there are some dates you are not available, let Sherry know so you are not scheduled on those days.

Welcome Visitors! We are blessed you are joining us today! Thank you for spending your time in worship to join us in prayer, study and song. Please take some time to share your contact information with us by signing the guest book in the narthex. God bless your time with us!

Today's Hymns: LSB 663, 873, 895, 745

Next Week's Scriptures: Malachi 3:13–18; Colossians 1:13–20; Luke 23:27–43

Sunday Attendance: November 9, 2025

8:30 am - 75; 10:45 am - 41

**Wednesday Evening Worship Service –
Wednesday Bible Study –**

Rev. Dr. Douglas A. Krengel, Sole Pastor

Please contact Pastor Krengel for any Pastoral needs.

Pastor Krengel's Cell Phone: 832-257-5437

email: krengeld@gmail.com