

Emanuel Lutheran Church
July 2025
Enlightener



Pastor Lloyd Leo Luedeman

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Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Congregational Leadership

Rev. Lloyd Leo Leudeman

**Cell: (906)202-5006
pastorlloydll@gmail.com**

Council Members

Barb Bach
Ronda Barr
Patti Bergdahl
Richard Cooke
Christie Johnson
Leah Kainulainen
Sarah Kimball

Office

Jolene Kokko ~
Office Assistant

Committee Leaders

Barb Bach ~ Stewardship
Sarah Kimball ~ Outreach
Betsy Koski ~ Christian
Education
Jane Sims ~ Worship & Music
Pam Bahrman ~ Cemetery
Business Manager
Roger Kimball ~
Building & Property

Emanuel Lutheran Church has both a Facebook page and website! Catch up on upcoming and past events, our monthly calendar and Enlightener newsletters at

www.be-lutheran.org



Sunday Worship begins at 11 a.m.
through October.

***2025 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
July-October 11AM , November-February 9 AM***

Birthday Blessings

July 11– Mark Krans

July 17–Pastor Luedeman

July 19–Lee Whitaker

July 20 –Mary Heath

July 23–Landon DuVall

July 24–Leah Kainulainen

July 29- Elizabeth McCarthy

Anniversary Blessings

July 13– Mark & Iva Arnett

July 13–Dale & Sally Weingartner



*Thank you Sammy and Landon DuVall for
sponsoring the July worship bulletins
honoring Landon's birthday month.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Usher(s)</u>
07/06	Christie Johnson	Richard Cooke
07/13	Betsy Koski	Jesse & Leah Kainulainen
07/20	Patti Bergdahl	Roger & Sarah Kimball
07/27	Jesse Kainulainen	Tom & Barb Bach

Digital Monthly Newsletter

Would you like to receive the Enlightener via email instead of the mail? Please send an email to the office: emanuel@tds.net and request your Enlightener to be emailed. If you would like the weekly ***Celebrates*** with the readings and prayers either mailed or emailed also, let the office know at 906-942-7245 or email us an message.

The Pastor's Piece for July 2025

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.” Romans 8:1-2

In this month of July, we celebrate our “freedom!” Happy Independence Day to everyone...happy deliverance month! I love the month of July, and not just because we are now well into summertime, and hopefully the storms and rains of June are behind us, but because July is all about freedom-right? July is the month that we, as citizens of the United States of America, celebrate the birthday of our country's freedom-our deliverance from the cruel colonial oppressor's rod as it were. Freedoms that were won through the sacrifices of others willing to give everything they had for the greater good of their community...for their people. Freedom's that are still maintained through that same kind of self-giving sacrifices today. This month, as we gather for parades, barbecue's, fireworks, and other rituals of celebration, may we remember to give thanks to God for the blessings we enjoy because of the hard work, commitment and sacrifices of others on our behalf, and may we take a moment to reflect on our own responsibilities for these freedoms in today's world! And finally, may we also remember an even more blessed freedom that we enjoy-the salvation that Jesus Christ has won for us according to the riches of God's grace. May we never forget that always, in and through the Risen Christ, as the writer of Ephesians 1:7 states, *“...we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”*

It is in Christ Jesus, God's Son, in whom we have been given life, and through whom the daily transformation of our humanity occurs, and through whom we are assured of the goal of our eternal living. Living based in the freedom *“from the law of sin and death”* as the Apostle Paul writes above in Romans. Freedom based not in ourselves being able to keep or live through our own

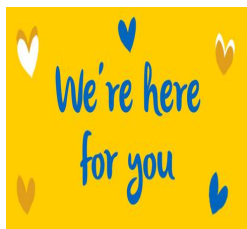
keeping of the law, which Christ Jesus has fulfilled for all people for all time. It is from Christ Jesus then that we receive the pattern for our lives, since he is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6). Living as God's chosen ones, holy and blameless, through the forgiveness of our sins, drawn close in relationship to the Father through the life, death, and resurrection of the Son, we are made new each day through the Holy Spirit to help others live in freedom the same way as we are able to. This means first that we live from God just as Jesus did. In the Nicene Creed we confess Jesus as the natural Son of God, "*eternally begotten of the Father.*" This is to say that the Father is continually the source of his being, and so also ours too.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil & Jeff Keane



"Grandma always pats me there and says, 'Bless your little heart.'"

So then, during this month of celebration may we take time to remember to offer ourselves *in faith* as living sacrifices to the purposes of God just as we receive God's gifts of salvation and life in Christ for ourselves and our families. Have a wonderful and safe July. May the grace and peace of Christ Jesus fill your hearts, minds and relationships with every good thing. See you in church.
+ Pastor Lloyd



Please let Pastor Lloyd or the church office know if you or a family member is hospitalized, ill, homebound or in need of help. We want to be sure to be here for you, with support, prayers and visits. If you can't notify Emanuel, please ask a family member to do so.

Please contact Pastor Lloyd directly at **(906)202-5006** or contact Emanuel at **(906)942-7245**.



Skandia Days and Parade ***Saturday July 19, 11 AM***

Emanuel will be walking in the parade with our church building replica float! All are invited to walk the route with a few seats in Richard's side by side. We appreciate any donations of wrapped candy for handouts during the parade. We will be making little zip-locks with the candy and with church information included. We also will be selling our quilt and hand-crafted items raffle tickets after the parade in the outdoor pavilion. If anyone would like to help, talk with Jolene. Thank you for your help with this fun, annual event!



Add to the Joy of the Day!

On Saturday, August 16, our very own Nichole Mackey and Zachary Reuter will be joined in marriage at Emanuel. As part of the celebration, Nichole has expressed her wish to have the parish hall filled with wedding memorabilia such as we had at our church anniversary wedding reunions. If you have a wedding dress, veil, cake topper, picture, garter, or other items we could use in the decorations, please contact Betsy Koski (bakoski@nglsynod.org). You don't need to have been married at Emanuel to display these items! Please know that dresses don't have to be ironed or "made new" – wrinkles are just fine! This is meant to add to the joy of the day. Contact Betsy if you have any questions. Thank you!!



To encourage living out our faith daily, please help yourself to the daily devotional following the common lectionary, **"Christ In Our Home"** for July-September. It is located at both entry ways to the sanctuary, or let the office know if you would like one mailed to you!



We have received another beautiful quilt to be raffled, made and donated by Connie Arnett Ritter. The name of the quilt is "Cottage Braid" and the size is 104" X 95". Other handmade items are also included in the raffle. Tickets are available to purchase and to sell at \$2 each. Call the office at (906)942-7245 for any more information and thank you for your support of this annual fund-raising project!

Your Thoughts are Appreciated

In conversations with several members and friends of Emanuel, the idea of a fall/holiday Bazaar in November has been raised. While it may not be as big or beautiful as it was pre-COVID, and while we have no expectation that everyone who has been involved in the past will be able to do so now, we think it's important to renew some of the activities that show both our members and the community that we are a vital congregation. Would you be willing to share your creative talents at a Bazaar – and encourage others to share theirs, as well? We are not looking at having weekly crafting sessions (unless they are requested); it would primarily be things you make on your own time at home. Sewing, knitting, crocheting, jewelry making, candle making, woodworking, baking, canning, etc. We have some wonderfully talented people in our congregation – and we need you to make a Bazaar a success. Share your thoughts about having a Bazaar with Pastor Lloyd or any Council member. If you have any questions, contact Betsy Koski.



Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

During the first weekend of June, our Synod Council met in retreat to be further equipped for their leadership role. During this time, I presented a proposal for a Sabbatical. I am grateful that the Council approved my proposal, and I share with you what that means for Synod leadership and staff moving forward.

- I will be on Sabbatical from October 15, 2025 – January 14, 2026, with the option of an additional month to be taken consecutively or at a future date.
- During that time, I will take a pause from social media, emails, phone calls, texts, etc. Pastor Sharolyn Swenson will respond to any needs or inquiries and will have the support of Synod staff and other bishops should there be questions that she cannot answer.
- For several weeks during this time, my husband and I will travel through Cambodia and Vietnam and then visit our former foreign exchange student in Thailand.

As I shared with your Synod Council, overall, the nature of this work is often reactionary, meaning that I am responding to the demands of the moment. There is little time or spirit left to consider the bigger picture, the longer view, or a compelling vision. Covid and the rapidly changing Church has narrowed the vision of so many to the most faithful next step. I am hopeful that stepping back from the day to day demands - of letters and emails, crisis and conflict management, deadlines and details - will give more clarity and focus to the leadership I can offer the Northern Great Lakes Synod. My sabbatical goals include:

- To return to Synod work with new energy; spiritually refreshed and strengthened for the challenges ahead.
- To be open to learning, seeing, and doing without specific goals or expectations.
- To allow space for creativity, discernment, and rest.

While I am sad to miss Fall events and plans, I am grateful for this gift of time away. Be assured that Pastor Sharolyn Swenson, will be more than ready to respond as needed.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Katherine Finegan

Roger's June Building & Property Report to the council included:

Projects Done the Past Month

1. Church was bug bombed on June 10th by Ronda and Todd Barr.
2. The outside food pantry was re-painted June 11 by Richard Cooke.
3. The Parking lot gravel was power broomed out of the grass by Richard Cooke.
4. Mouse traps checked (none).
5. Exit lights checked (good).

Projects that Need to be Done

1. Steps for the church need to be patched and painted.
2. Paint the three wooden crosses out front.
3. More brick work on the north side.
4. First classroom in the basement needs to be cleaned out by August for the new ramp construction.



Projects in Progress

1. Cleaning the basement storage.

Projects for the Future

1. New furnace for church.
2. Painting the outside of the Fellowship Hall.
3. Replace Fellowship Hall windows (large windows on east side).

Please talk to Roger if you can help out with any projects and thank you !

June Council Meeting Highlights

~ Thank you notes from the Marquette County Community Baby shower for our benevolence in May. Thank you letter from the Community Foundation of MQT County for the April benevolence. Thank you card from Allie Sims for the confirmation cards, gifts and quilt, and from Charlie for birthday wishes.

~ The May Financial Secretary Report reviewed and found in order. Follow up needed with Treasurer for ramp money available.

~Pastor Luedeman on vacation in July and Pastor Steve Solberg will be pulpit supply and emergency coverage during that time.

~Updating/editing Emanuel's Mission Statement is needed to make it more concise and less words. Things to consider: What is God's purpose for our ministry, what do we need to do to be, and it should reflect what we are doing today and the next 5 years.

~Quilting continues to meet third Tuesdays during July and August. Sarah will be contacting people to provide lunch items to the Marquette County Habitat For Humanity building crew on **July 17**.

~Help is needed for some projects that need upkeep; clearing out first classroom in the basement for ramp construction, repainting the 3 crosses in front of the church, brick work, fellowship hall painting and repairing the front steps.

~ Cemetery needs to be expanded by clearing more land for plots. Council approved new cemetery regulation that if a cancellation for opening a grave occurs after the grave site has been opened the full burial fee will be charged for the service and a new brochure will reflect this.

~Skandia Day is Saturday, **July 19**. Emanuel will participate with the church float in the parade. All are invited to participate.

~Complete minutes and financial reports are posted on the bulletin boards. The next Council meeting is Tuesday, **August 19**, 5PM.



Pastor Lloyd will be on vacation July 7-20. Pastor Steve Solberg will be leading worship July 14th and 20th, and will also be the emergency contact during this time at **906-458-2145**.

July 2025

Pastor Lloyd~Tues:10am-2pm

Jolene~Fridays: 1-5pm



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	We	Thurs	Friday	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
						
6 Worship 11AM	7 AA MTG 7 PM	8	9	10	11 	12 Adopt - A-Highway Clean Up thru July 20th
13 Worship 11AM	14 AA MTG 7 PM	15 Quilting 1-3PM	16	17 Habitat Building Crew Lunch	18 	19 Skandia Days 11AM Parade
20 Worship 11AM	21 AA MTG 7 PM	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship 11AM	28 AA MTG 7 PM	29	30	31		

**The July Enlightener
Emanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA
P.O. Box 160
Skandia, MI 49885**

*Emanuel Lutheran Church is a people centered
in Christ, rich in heritage and beauty, living out
Christ's openness to all. Our ministry is to
spread the Word of God in our community
through service, education and fellowship,
creating a sense of family as we break bread
together in the company of Christ.*

Join Us for our Sunday Services at 11AM