

Emanuel Lutheran Church
March 2026
Enlightener



Pastor Lloyd Leo Luedeman

(906)202-5006

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Emanuel Lutheran Church: 906-942-7245

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Emanuel Lutheran Church of Skandia , ELCA



Visit us on
Facebook

Congregational Leadership

Rev. Lloyd Leo Luedeman

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

Council Members

Barb Bach
Patti Bergdahl
Christie Johnson
Leah Kainulainen
Sarah Kimball
Mark Krans
Dale Weingartner

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



***2026 Worship Times at Emanuel Lutheran Church
March-June 11AM***

Birthdays Blessings

March 1—

Johnny Bergdahl

March 5- Mark Shelton

March 16-

Richard Cooke

March 23-Jeff Sims

March 28-

Sammy DuVall



Anniversary

March 10-

Mark & Melissa

Krans



*Thank you Sammy DuVall for sponsoring
the March worship bulletins
in honor of her family.*

Thank you for serving during worship!

Date

Lector

Usher(s)

03/01

Patti Bergdahl

Tom & Barb Bach

03/08

Barb Bach

Jesse & Lelah Kainulainen

03/15

Jesse Kainulainen

Roger & Sarah Kimball

03/22

Barb Bach

Richard Cooke

03/29

Betsy Koski

Roger & Sarah Kimball

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, Emanuel is (906)942-7245.

The Pastor's Piece for March 2026

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."
Philippians 1:2-6

After church one Sunday, a young boy walked up to the pastor and said, "Pastor, I heard you say in church that our bodies came from dust?" "That's right son," the pastor replied, "I did." "And didn't you say that when we die, our bodies go back to dust?" "Yes, I'm glad you were listening," the pastor said, adding, "why do you ask anyway?" "Well, I think you better come over to our house right away and look under my bed," the boy said, "cause there's someone there either coming or going!" This joke reminds of the month of March-winter seems to be either coming or going!

This March we find ourselves once again in the church season of Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. During Lent, Christians all over the world commit themselves to be more intentional about practicing our spiritual disciplines like fasting, self-examination, praying, scripture reading and acts of charitable giving. Some also vow to abstain from particular activities or substances as part of denying themselves and focusing on the coming of Easter. This year our Ash Wednesday services were cancelled for the second year in a row due to a winter storm, however we were able to celebrate a make-up "Ash" day on the following Sunday where we received our ashes on our foreheads in the sign of a cross which remind us of our mortality with the words that "we are dust, and to dust we shall return." Because of this focus on death and decay and self-denial, Lent often has the tone of being a very solemn season. But what if we approach Lent this year with *joy*? What would it be like for us to consider these Lenten disciplines as an invitation for us to live in greater awareness of God's grace at work in our lives and in the world. What if we make Lent more about "rejoicing" in our faith this year, as the Apostle Paul write in his letter to the Philippians above!

In that letter to the Philippians, the Apostle Paul writes from a Roman prison cell encouraging his readers in 2:18 to “rejoice and be glad with him” even as he ponders what God’s future has in store for his life. In his experience the Apostle Paul speaks of practicing disciplines like prayer, hospitality, and giving not as ways to gain joy but *as joyful expressions* of the life we now live in Christ Jesus whatever our circumstances. In



Philippians 3:10-11 Paul defines the power of the resurrection as leading us through suffering to new life. Jesus’ resurrection then is not to be understood as the end of all suffering, but because of it, Paul says that he can rejoice no matter what his earthly circumstances are and he encourages us to draw upon that same power in our lives. These words are indeed a source of encouragement for everyone during these times of rampant social unrest. So then, in the spirit of Paul’s prayer, as we encounter the season of Lent together this year, it is my prayer that you will be able to rejoice in both your sufferings and in your blessings, and find *joy*, along with all of your loved ones, in your comings and goings, through the spiritual disciplines of the Lenten preparation for Easter. Amy and I are looking forward to being you in church, +LLL

HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday ~March 29 : Worship 11 a.m.

Maundy Thursday ~ April 2: Worship 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday ~ April 3 : Worship 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday ~ April 5 : Worship 11:00 a.m.

Raise your voice in Thanksgiving and praise to our Risen Lord!



Joyful Reflection

The new year offers the perfect opportunity to take a fresh look at our response to the blessings God has enriched our lives with. One of the goals of stewardship is to help us reflect on God's goodness to us and discover ways we can use the gifts God has given us to further God's mission. And the end result of that reflection is joy! Stewardship is a joy-filled response to a loving and generous God.

Everyone goes through seasons in life that challenge us. But even in those seasons, we are blessed by God walking with us, offering strength and comfort.

As we enter 2026, the Stewardship Committee invites you to deliberately reflect each day on where you have seen God's blessings and let the joy that fills your heart inspire you to generosity of time, abilities, and treasure for God's work at Emanuel. We invite you to share your thoughts in the Enlightener. Please visit with Pastor Lloyd, Barb Bach, or Betsy Koski if you would like to share your story of joy-filled stewardship. Thank you!



We continue to collect Econo Receipts for the ELCA World Hunger Fund. The *We Share Program* donates 1% of the total of receipts that we turn in. The collection box is near the window in the north end of the fellowship hall. Thank you for your continued support of the World Hunger Fund!



We have many beautiful hand made Prayer Shawls available for those in need. Prayer shawls are given to those who are experiencing a difficult time, are in need of comfort and healing, to let them know they are not alone and to provide them with a sense of God's peace and healing. Please let the office know if you would like one, or know of someone in need of a prayer shawl.

Interested in Electronic Giving?

Not everyone is able to be at our worship service every Sunday, but our mission and the expenses to make ministry happen are a daily and weekly reality. One way you can help make a more consistent donation and deepen your spiritual practice of giving is through electronic donations. Emanuel uses Vanco Services, which allows you to choose to make a gift weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. It is a safe and secure method of supporting the congregation's ministry. If you are interested in finding out more about this method of giving, please contact Pastor Lloyd or Betsy Koski.



A sign up sheet is on the kitchen counter for bringing treats for fellowship following our Sunday worship service. Coffee is available and usually half & half. If you need help setting up or cleaning up afterwards, there is help! Goodies do not need to be elaborate, just something to enjoy along with a cup of coffee and good fellowship! Thank you !

Lifting Up to God in Prayer

We commend to the grace and mercy of God and pray for the breaking in of God's reign:

~For peace between nations, for peace between peoples: For Iran, Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Mexico, the U.S.

~For our small congregations and their leaders, that the Spirit inspires and guides, gathers and sanctifies.

~For our congregations participating in the Transition Cohort, that they find meaningful engagement and missional clarity.

~For those who long for Spring, that they find joy and blessing, and remember that Spring always comes.

~For our immigrant neighbors: for safety and friendship, for security and hope.



We are collecting clothing items for the Gwinn Elementary Schools this winter; new or gently used sweat pants, underwear and socks (girls & boys all sizes) and snow pants (sizes med & large). Items can be placed in the shopping cart in the fellowship hall.

Talk with Sarah if you have any questions and thank you for helping with this community outreach project!



Pregnancy Help and Educational Resources for Families

The 3rd annual Care Clinic Diaper Drive is here! We are collecting diapers and wipes to support families in our community. All sizes are welcome, but the greatest need is larger diaper sizes—especially sizes 5, 6, and 7. Bring your donations to the church now through March 15. The two churches that donate the most items will win \$250! Let's rally for LIFE!



Quilting for Lutheran World Relief meets on Tuesdays at Emanuel 1-3 pm. All are welcome with no

experience needed. We are always in need of gently used sheets that are used for the tops and bottoms of the quilts. We are also always in need of sewing thread for the edges that are machine sewn and heavier cotton thread for tying the tops. If you

have any questions please talk with Christie. Come and join us for a great time of fellowship while meeting the need for this worldwide outreach project!



Thank you all for donating cans of soup and monetary donations during our Souper Bowl of Caring in February. Since our winter weather prohibits canned items outside in our micro food pantry, we invite those in need to come inside to pick up those items kept on the book shelf in the fellowship hall. Donations are welcome for both outside and inside items. Thank you for supporting this community outreach resource.



You are invited to contribute to the purchase of fresh flowers for the altar and sanctuary Easter Sunday, April 5. Please designate the donation as "Easter Flowers" when giving. The Altar Guld will purchase and pick up the flowers. Thank you for helping us adorn the sanctuary on Easter Day!

Emanuel will be giving baskets with a complete Easter meal this season. If you know of anyone or a family in our community that is in need of one, please talk with Sarah or Pastor Lloyd. Emanuel will be using a grant from Thrivent Financial, taking a special offering Sunday, March 29, and accepting donations of canned peas, corn, cranberries and jello of any flavor or size. Thank you for your donations to this annual outreach project.





Wednesday, March 4 – Emanuel Lutheran Church
9812 US HWY 41

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 11– Community Covenant Church
588 Carlshend Road

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper

Wednesday, March 25 – Hope Methodist Skandia
189 Kreiger Drive

Worship Service 6 p.m. followed by Soup Supper



All are welcome!

Remember in Prayer ...

Our members, family, and friends who are ill, have health concerns, are grieving, or are in need...

our members and friends who are absent from worship.

*Paul Johnson, Jeff, Mary Heath, Sally Weingartner,
Sonny Robinson, Theresa, Sue, Christie Johnson,
Sarah Kimball, Bob Johnson, Eric Johnson.*

If you have a prayer request, for yourself or others, or would like to be on the prayer team, please let the office know by calling, by leaving a message at 906-942-7245, or by emailing the office at:

Emanuel@tds.net

March 2026

Pastor Lloyd ~Tuesdays 10am-2pm

Jolene~Fridays 1:30-5:30pm & Sat. pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Adult Forum 10am Worship 11am 	2 AA Meeting 7 pm	3 Quilting 1-3 pm	4 Emanuel 6 pm 	5	6	7
8 Adult Forum 10am Worship 11am	9 AA Meeting 7 pm	10 Quilting 1-3 pm	11 Community Covenant 6pm 	12	13	14
15 Adult Forum 10am Worship 11am	16 AA Meeting 7 pm	17 Quilting 1-3 pm Council 5:30 pm	18	19	20	21
22 Adult Forum 10am Worship 11am	23 AA Meeting 7 pm	24 Quilting 1-3 pm	25 Hope Methodist 6pm 	26	27	28
29 Adult Forum 10am Worship 11am 	30 AA Meeting 7 pm	31 Quilting 1-3 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship April 2, 7pm Good Friday Service April 3, 7 pm			

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

*Emanuel is rich in heritage,
Spreading the Word of God through service,
education and fellowship as we break bread
together in the company of Christ*

Join Us for our Sunday Services at 11AM