



## THE MESSENGER

Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA  
726 Fuller Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307  
Website: [www.immanuelbr.com](http://www.immanuelbr.com)

Facebook: @immanuelbr Instagram: ILCbigrapids  
Phone 231/796-8273 Fax 231/796-9599

**Sunday Morning Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Live on Facebook**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday – 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm - Closed on Friday**

Office Staff: Mary Larkin, Administrative Assistant is in the office Tuesday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. Shirley Hamelund, Office Assistant is in the office Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 am – 4 pm. The Church office is closed on Friday.

### Office e-mail addresses:

Church: [immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com](mailto:immanuelbigrapids726@gmail.com)  
Mary Larkin (Administrative Assistant) [marylar726@gmail.com](mailto:marylar726@gmail.com)  
Shirley Hamelund (Office Assistant/Receptionist) [shirleyh403@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyh403@gmail.com)

**MISSION:** To inspire members to grow in loving devotion to Jesus Christ, caring concern for one another, welcoming outreach, and loving service to our neighbors.

**VISION STATEMENT:** Immanuel Lutheran Church will be known for welcoming hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity.

## JANUARY 2023

### Pastoral Schedule for January 2023 (in-person)



Jan. 1, 2023	Rev. Teresa Foster
Jan. 8, 2023	Pastor Phil Van Dam
Jan. 15, 2023	Rev. Robert Garrels
Jan. 22, 2023	Pastor Phil Van Dam
Jan. 29, 2023	Lay Leader

**(Live stream on Facebook)**

Please call the church office (231) 796-8273 in case of an emergency. The referral will be passed on to a leader of the church.

## **JANUARY Readings Schedule** (Readings from New Revised Standard)

### **January 1st - 1st Sunday of Christmas**

9:30 am Worship - Rev. Teresa Foster - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



#### Readings:

Numbers 6: 22-27  
Psalm 8  
Galatians 4: 4-7  
Luke 2: 15-21

### **January 8th - Baptism of Our Lord- 1st Sunday after Epiphany**

9:30 am Worship - Pastor Phil Van Dam - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



#### Readings:

Isaiah 42: 1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10: 34-43  
Matt. 3: 13-17

### **January 15th - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

9:30 am Worship - Pastor Robert Garrels - in person worship & live stream on Facebook.

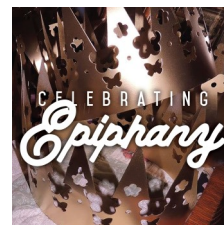


#### Readings:

Isaiah 49: 1-7  
Psalm 40: 1-11  
1 Corinthians 1: 1-9  
John 1: 29-42

### **January 22nd - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

9:30 a.m. Worship - Pastor Phil Van Dam - In person Worship & live stream on Facebook.

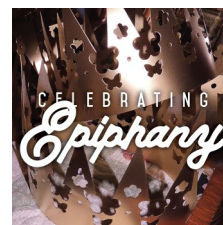


#### Readings:

Isaiah 9: 1-4  
Psalm 27: 1, 4-9  
1 Corinthians 1: 10-18  
Matthew 4: 12-23

### **January 29th - 4th Sunday after Epiphany**

9:30 am Worship - Lay Leader - In person worship & live stream on Facebook.



#### Readings:

Micah 6: 1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31  
Matt. 5: 1-12

## **YTD thru November 2022**

### **Ministry Fund**

Giving - \$103,118  
Expenses -\$109,697

### **Building Fund**

Giving - \$95,914  
Mortgage Payments- \$92,247

# IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES



*If you were left off this list, or if a birthday or anniversary is listed wrong, please contact the church office.*

- 3 Jeffrey Lindsey
- 2 Jim Lindsey
- 5 Kristine Moulter Shuffeldt
- 7 Elaine White
- 12 Sarah Metzger
- 19 Phyllis Lindsey



- 17 Darrell Corrie & Barb Pillsbury
- 19 Darrell & Becky Hamelund
- 29 Doug & Alexandra Barnes

## Meetings in person this month

Staff meeting **Tues. Jan. 3 at 10:30 am**

Worship & Music comm. **Tues. Jan. 3 at 2:00 pm**

Hymn Planning comm. **Tues. Jan. 3 at 3:30 pm**

Council meeting following worship **Jan. 8 10:45 am**

Tubabach concert **Sun. Jan. 8 at 4:00 pm**

Funeral service **Mon. Jan. 9**

Staff meeting **Tues. Jan. 10 at 10:30 am**

Tubabach concert **Sun. Jan. 15 at 4:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Tues. Jan. 17 at 10:30 am**

Shepherd's Hooks & Needles **Tues. Jan. 17 at Noon**

Tubabach concert **Sun. Jan. 22 at 4:00 pm**

Staff meeting **Thurs. Jan. 26 10:30 am**

Tubabach concert **Sun. Jan. 29 at 4:00 pm**



**Ongoing prayers for:** Jean Swarthout, Len Crystal, Nancy McReynolds, Virginia Schuberg, Leroy Larson.

**Healing & Health Concerns for:** Roger O'Dell, Judy O'Dell, Phyllis Obermier-Striho, Linda & Barry Borton, Marcy Nelson, Carol Wilson-Jungck, Charlie Schroeder, Bonnie Biers, Elaine White.

**Comfort:**  
**Lucy Fredrick family**  
**Bob Krueger family**

## **World Concerns Prayers:**

Our President and Leaders of the Nation

Racism

Prayer of guidance for our neighborhood churches

People hurting, suffering, homeless

People in poverty (hunger, homeless)

Military troops in the U.S. and abroad

Victims of Human Trafficking

Victims of natural disasters here & abroad

Victims of shootings, bombs, terrorist groups

Victims of hurricanes, flooding, earthquakes, volcanoes, devastating tornadoes (Kentucky) and wildfires

North Korea, Iran, Syria, Puerto Rico, Islamic community in New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Ukraine

Families of the mass shootings in US

Shootings & Suicides in returning veterans in Military & their families (general PTSD) (22 suicides every day)

Wounded Warriors





## PARISH NURSE

JANUARY

January 1, 2023 is the 7<sup>th</sup> day of our Christian church calendar. The Epiphany of our Lord will be on January 6, 2023.

Bring in our New Year with HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE!!

### Our Health News for January:

January 1 is National Healthy Living Awareness Day. Include plenty of fruits and vegetables, dairy products, lean meats, whole grains in your diet and get exercise, avoid tobacco, alcohol and street drugs. Get plenty of sleep and stay positive—and don't let stressful things get out of control, if possible. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 1-7, 2023 is FOLIC ACID AWARENESS WEEK. Folic Acid is a B vitamin necessary for cell growth. If taken before and during pregnancy, it can prevent 70% of some serious brain and spinal birth defects called neural tube defects, like spina bifida and anencephaly. Take a vitamin (with folic acid daily and eat fortified foods like cereals, pastas and whole grains. Also include leafy, dark green vegetables, beans, and citrus fruits.

January is National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. In order to prevent the main cause of cervical cancer, young girls, before becoming sexually active, need to receive the human papillomavirus virus; it is given in three doses. Cervical cancer is preventable and can be treated effectively if caught early.

January is National Stalking Awareness Month. Stalking is a criminal activity consisting of repeated following and harassing of another person. It is unwanted or obsessive attention by one or more people toward another person and is illegal in many states. In the U.S. approximately 13.5 million cases are reported annually.

January in National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Human Trafficking is the trade of humans, usually for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced labor, or commercial sexual exploitation for the trafficker of others. This may involve providing a spouse, using force, or for the extraction of organs and/or tissues (e.g. ova). Human trafficking is a crime against a person—it is a violation of a person's rights. In 2020, 10,583 trafficking situations were reported.

Blood Pressure Checks will be given when needed.

“Don't be afraid for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help

you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.” . . . Isaiah 41:10

*Love In Christ,  
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse*

Stewardship – We thank all the individuals and families who have submitted their financial Estimate of Giving form for 2023. If you haven't, it is not too late to submit it. If you elect not to make an estimate of your giving, please check the box “I will pray for the congregation and do the best I can” and submit the Estimate for Giving form. Extra copies are on the counter in the narthex.

Put the form in an envelope and indicate Attention: Mary Larkin. If you need to change your estimate for giving at any time, simply notify Mary Larkin. Thank you so much for your past support and all the ways you bring glory to God and the achievement of Immanuel's ministries.  
~Lee Wolken

### President's Ponderings—no report this month

### Vision/Church Partners - no report this month

### Community Events

Social concerns - Go and Do Likewise: We will support the Brookside grade school this year. A collection box will be in the narthex for donations from the Congregation. Such things as Kleenex, hand sanitizer, surface wipes will be needed. They will have need of mittens, caps and other things throughout the school year.

Our Brother's Keeper is seeking support to assure housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness who need a safe place to stay as they transition into more permanent housing. Donations in any amount are welcomed but if you could at least send \$33.00 it will provide a single day of meals, shelter, and advocacy for an individual experiencing homelessness. We serve a 4 county area, Mecosta, Osceola, Newaygo and Lake. Your donations may be mailed to Our Brother's Keeper, P.O.Box 1642, Big Rapids, MI 49307, or donations can be made online through their website at [www.obkshelter.org](http://www.obkshelter.org) via PayPal.

## **2022 Council Members**

Dave Scott, President	(231) 250-5067
Tammy Lindsey, Vice Pres.	(231) 519-1212
Roger Barr, Secretary	(231) 972-8276
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Judy O'Dell	(231) 823-2845
Melanie Richardson	(231) 357-0863
Carol Wilson-Jungck	(231) 670-3220
Phyllis Cousineau	(231) 796-9574
Steve Neumann	(231) 796-0956
Bonnie Biers	(231) 796-1701

## **Committee Council Liaisons**

### **Roger Barr - Property committee**

**Carol Wilson-Jungck** – Celebrate Immanuel (CIF), Healing Garden, Worship & Music

**Dave Scott** – Finance Committee, Property committee

**Steve Neumann** - Worship & Music committee

**Tammy Lindsey** - Stewardship committee

**Mel Richardson** - Worship & Music committee

**Phyllis Cousineau** - Healing garden

**Judy O'Dell** - Church Life committee, W/ELCA

## **Committees and Organizations**

### **Celebrate Immanuel (CIF)**

#### **Christian Education**

#### **Church Life**

Carol Zimmerman, Chairperson	(231) 796-2152
Kitchen Coordinator	
Irene Schuberg, Funeral lunch	(231) 796-7814

#### **Finance**

Nedra Neumann, Chairperson	(231) 796-0956
Nedra Neumann, Treasurer	(231) 796-0956
Roger Barr – Gifts/Memorials	(231) 972-8276

### **Nominating Team (2021)**

#### **Property**

Tim Vogel, chairperson	(231) 796-3860
Healing Garden Min.	
Carol Wilson-Jungck, co-chair	(231) 670-3220
Heritage team:	
Carol Zimmerman	(231) 796-2152

## **Office Staff**

Mary Larkin, Administrative Asst. (Tues.-Thurs.)  
Shirley Hamelund, Office Asst. (Mon, Tues, Thurs.)  
Phyllis Lindsey, Parish Nurse (schedule varies)

## **Intentional Faith Development**

### **Social Concerns (Risk-Taking Mission and Service)**

Roger Barr, Chairperson	(231) 972-8276
Lee Wolken –Habitat/Humanity	(231) 972-7756

### **Stewardship (Extravagant Generosity)**

Lee Wolken, Chairperson	(231) 972-7756
David Scott	(231) 250-5067

### **Vision (and Ministry Leadership Network)**

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
Lee Wolken	(231) 972-7756

### **Church Partnership Team**

Gunder Myran, Chairperson	(231) 972-7405
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## **Welcoming**

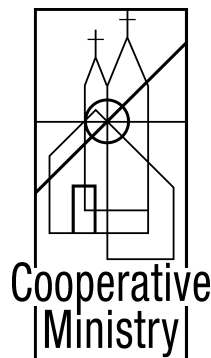
Phyllis Lindsey – Prayer circle	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann-Prayer Circle	(231) 796-8385
Webmaster- Mary Larkin	(231) 796-8273
Leah Monger	(231) 287-7022

## **Women of the ELCA**

Dee Neumann, co-chair	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund co-chair	(231) 796-7763

## **Worship and Music (Passionate Worship)**

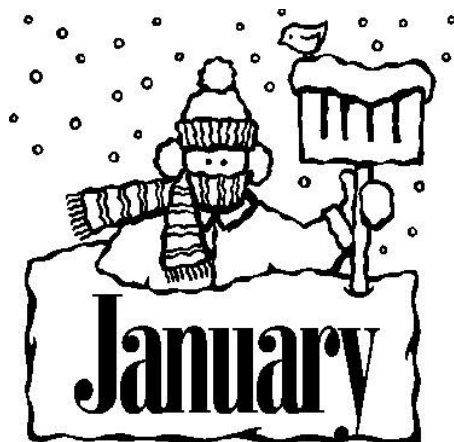
David Scott, A/V team	(231) 796-4618
Dee Neumann, Altar Guild	(231) 796-8385
Carol Zimmerman, Altar Guild	(231) 796-2152
Readers (Volunteer)	
Phyllis Lindsey, Worship Asst.	
and Intinction Asst.	(231) 796-6400
Dee Neumann, Weddings	(231) 796-8385
Shirley Hamelund, Weddings	(231) 796-7763





**726 Fuller Ave.**  
**Big Rapids, MI 49307**  
Address Change Requested

**2023**



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE STAFF: Mary Larkin, Shirley Hamelund,  
Phyllis Lindsey, Janet Mallett, Lee Wolken, Rev. Teresa Foster, Rev. Bob Garrels.