

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK
2nd Sunday of Christmas
 January 3 - January 10, 2021

YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT... www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org

- Sunday** - 9:30 am - Worship Service (online)
 - 10:15 am - Zoom Coffee Hour
 - *Sunday School online any time (ALL VIRTUAL)*
 - 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)
 - NO OTHER ACTIVITY
- Monday** OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S
 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation WILL BE ON ZOOM
- Tuesday** - 5:30 pm - Endowment Fund Committee Meeting
- Wednesday** - 10:00 am - Bible Study discussing this coming Sunday's Scripture online via ZOOM - - - go to: www.immanuelnegaunee.org and click on button: "WED 10AM BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM"
- Thursday** - 9:00 am - Un-decorate the church
 - 6:00 pm - NO Bible Study tonight. It is under development. Stay tuned for more details.
- Friday** - OFFICE CLOSED
 - 10:00 am - Women's AA Group Meets
- Sunday** *Baptism of our Lord*
 - 9:30 am - Worship Service (online)
 - 10:15 am - Zoom Coffee Hour
 - Sunday School is Virtual
 - 7:30 pm - AA Group Meets (men & women)



* * * NOTICE * * * *

ALL WORSHIP SERVICES & SMALL GROUP MEETINGS ARE "ONLINE" (using ZOOM) at least THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2021.

AT THAT TIME, ANOTHER DECISION WILL BE MADE. STAY TUNED.



**** PLEASE PICK UP YOUR 2021 ENVELOPE BOXES. ****

THEY ARE FOUND JUST INSIDE THE FELLOWSHIP HALL DOORWAY.

†BIRTHDAYS

Happy Belated 93rd Birthday to Betty Lukkarinen on Dec. 31st.
Happy 83rd Birthday to Bettie Ahola on January 9th,

†UP CITY SERVE Go to www.upcityserve.org to find out how you can help and / or receive help during this world-wide pandemic.

†IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH is seeking a part-time Custodian.

Follow this link for a complete job description and how to apply. <https://immanuelnegaunee.weebly.com/apply-for-job.html>



†THE 2021 DAILY TEXTS is a unique devotional book with two Bible verses for each day - one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. These are followed by a prayer based on the TRIP – Thanks, Regret, Intercession, and Purpose – written by a different person each month. Scripture readings to read through the Bible in one year are also provided. Each Sunday has a Watchword for the week plus a hymn for the church season. The Small Catechism in prayer form is also included. Contact the church office for pick-up. Suggest donation is \$10.



†SUNDAY SCHOOL 2020-21 Sunday School IS ALL VIRTUAL. Sunday School is for Age 3 through 5th Grade. Packets include activities for ALL ages. **The packets are posted EACH SUNDAY.** Call the church if you do not know how to participate.



†GIVING YOUR OFFERINGS – Thank you for continuing to financially support our ongoing congregational mission. Electronic giving is available on our website.



†LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION for 2021 is now being advertised. Go to our website & find under SYNOD LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION the topics and schedules for your registering.

†ANNUAL MEETING Our 2021 congregational **elections** meeting is set for Sunday/Monday, February 7/8, immediately following each worship service, and the congregational **business meeting** is set for Sunday, February 14, at 10:45 am. We are hoping we'll be able to hold these meetings in-person, but we will also provide access via smart device and landline telephone. To aid preparation, a mailing later in January will share access details and request a meeting RSVP that designates how you'll access the meeting. One will still be able to attend without an RSVP, but advance notice greatly assists preparations. Praise God for the many means by which community can gather!



PRAYER CONCERNS OR OTHER NEEDS? Call Pastor Steve at (906) 458-2145 or click on "Share My Needs & Hopes" button at www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org. ("Connect" pull-down menu.)

JANUARY'S MONTHLY MISSION

"Gospel Message" 2nd Sunday of Christmas Truth beyond the Facts

There are many questions today about facts. Who do we trust to give us the facts? What sources and individuals are reliable? Social media can be a great tool for sharing, but it has also become a means of spreading misinformation, false beliefs, and bad advice. Many people today are suspicious of what some claim to be the facts.

Even if we have the right facts, we might not have something more important: the truth. Facts can be a partial representation of the truth. Facts might tell us that it is sunny and warm this morning, but the weather forecast might say thunderstorms are coming in the afternoon. The latter statement is truth. Truth is the larger reality that smaller facts don't capture, and sometimes contradict.

John tells us that Jesus is God's Word, full of grace and truth. In Jesus we get the full truth of God, not merely the facts. What are the facts we might see? We are all sinful and have strayed from God's just and loving ways. The world is a mess. Left to our own ways, we are surely lost. These are the facts, as if we woke up to a dangerous thunderstorm but don't know what the weather forecast is after that. Jesus is the fuller truth that in spite of the stormy mess of the world and our individual lives, God's grace is a gift to us in Christ. There is a blue sky and a safe calm that is ours through divine love.

Some of us live with messages that tell us we are not the right kind of person to receive God's grace because of our past mistakes, or ethnicity, or gender identity, or level of education, or poverty. The truth of Jesus Christ tells us we are children of God. "From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace" (John 1:16). This is the truth that gives us life.



Next Week's Reading: First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm: Psalm 29; Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7; Gospel: Mark 1:4-11.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Keep in Your Prayers** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Pray For: Glen Binoniemi, Kari Borchert, Bryon Butterfield, Wayne Connors, Greg Dix, Elizabeth, Christopher Johnson, Betty Kinnunen, Rodney Laituri, Anna Laurila, Connie Lindblom, Billy Jo Kaufman, Yvonne Marcom, Wendy Niemi, Ray, Jessica Roberts, and all COVID patients.

Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Phil Carlson, Rudy Gagnon, Annette Jachimski, Arlene Kivela, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Robert Mager, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Dave Stromquist, Lynne Tossava.

Members in the Armed Service: Luke DeWitt, Dennis Koski, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Jacque Kurian, Mark (Samantha) Makela, Tanner Rombach, Trevor Rombach, Michael (Lauren) Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, Jason Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.

In January, our Tanzanian companion ministry relationships will be the Mission Emphasis (ME). Many miles separate us, but we discover God's blessing of strengthened faith and vitality in the relationships we develop visiting and being visited by our Tanzanian brothers and sisters in Christ.



January's above-and-beyond ME offerings will go to our Immanuel Companion Congregation fund, encouraging travel and connections between Yombo Lutheran Church of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Immanuel.

Stay tuned as future trips are planned!!!

If you wish to give to the Tanzanian Companion Ministry, use the January Monthly Mission envelope from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift.

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you for giving \$2,545.00 in December to Room at the Inn (The Warming Center). The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity! Thank you!

Serving in Worship: Pastor Terry Cathcart
Immanuel's Pastor: Pastor Steve Solberg
Organist/Pianist/Musician: Online Music
Worship Services: Sunday & Monday, are online
Office Hours: 8 am-2 pm, Mon.-Thurs. (or by appt.)

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:
NO ONE IS ASSIGNED TO ASSIST AS WE DO NOT HAVE IN-PERSON SERVICES FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY, 2021. A DECISION WILL BE MADE AT THAT TIME. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE. STAY SAFE !!!