



Emmanuel

United Church of Christ

1306 Michigan Street
Oshkosh, WI 54902
920.235.8340
emmanueloshkosh.org

the lamplighter

Hearing Loop Installed in Sanctuary.
Switch Hearing Aid to Telecoil.





**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023**

**RALLY DAY BEGINS
WITH WORSHIP AT
9:00AM**

*After worship we will gather in the
sanctuary and then go to our
classrooms for a brief lesson!*

**Sunday School will be on the
SECOND &
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EACH MONTH**

from 10:00am – 11:00am

***If any parents would be interested in
helping out with Sunday school this
year, please contact
Kay Lund.***

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

From the Desk of Pastor Andi

September 2023

Do you ever have those days when you have so many things flying around in your head that you struggle to grab hold of one thing so you can deal with at least something? This time of the year it's always like that for me. The church year is ramping up after the summer. The school year is starting. The club soccer season is starting. There is so much expectation, so much information, and so much to do. Anxiety and stress can be constant companions when it feels like we are totally responsible for the success or failure of so much.

We are a people invested in the future. We want success for ourselves and those dear to us. Because of our desire for success, we tend to try to control. Control is an illusion. It is a house of cards we carefully built. When the winds come that destroy our precious creation, and those winds always come, we are devastated. Sometimes so much so that we cannot even pick up the pieces and start over.

Here is the bad news—you aren't really in control. You can do everything right, and still fail. We have experienced this and know the unfairness of it all. In the same way, we can make multiple mistakes and still succeed (we usually aren't all that outraged when this happens). Because we believe in our illusion of control, we struggle. We feel like we need to control not just our behavior and choices, but the behavior and choices of those around us as well. How difficult it is to wrap our heads around the fact that what is best for me is not always best for you.

But here is the good news—God IS in control. This doesn't free us from the responsibility of doing our part. We are still called to work hard and do our best, to pitch in when help is needed and know when to ask for help ourselves. We aren't given a free pass from trying, just a pass from feeling responsible for the success of the entire world. Because there is so much out of our control, our successes aren't all our doing.

The same holds true for our church. I have seen, over the years, people trying to recreate the church of years gone by. We remember the things we loved doing and want the same for the generations to follow—and this is good. But we forget that what was best for us isn't always what is needed for others. Like each of us, the church grows and changes. The passing of the years causes the church to look different, just as the passing of years causes us to look different.

(Continued)

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

From the Desk of Pastor Andi

September 2023 **(Continued)**

As we move forward in faith, we need to do just that—move forward and have faith. God is in control and has entrusted us with an awesome gift in the church. We will love her and do our best to make wise and faithful decisions. We will try so hard to remain open to where the Spirit leads us, even if those places feel uncomfortable for a while. The Spirit calls us to be a part of the work the church is doing. It is our doubt and need for control that keeps us from saying, 'Here I am—use me.'

Where is God calling you to go and what is God calling you to do today...and how have you been trying to steal the pen?

Pastor Andi

pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Ushers & Greeters Schedule

Would you be interested in being a greeter? We would love to bring back having people greet you as you come to worship. If this is something you would like to do, please contact the church office.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

September 2013	
	Ushers
Sunday, September 3, 2023	Ron & Sandra Golliher
Sunday, September 10, 2023	Brad & Liz Schultz
Sunday, September 17, 2023	Dan & Rene Rogers
Sunday, September 24, 2023	<i>Volunteers are Needed</i>

- [A Note From Pastor](#)
- [Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)
- [Treasurer's Nook](#)
- [RaiseRight](#)
- [Food Pantry](#)
- [Thank you!](#)
- [Coming up...](#)
- [Sunday School](#)
- [Memorials & Honorarium](#)
- [Church Council](#)
- [Miscellaneous](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Back to Top](#)

Treasurer's Nook

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...when I hear these words, it makes me think of the song we sometimes sing at church. But as I write this article, these words came to mind after our July financial results were known.

Last month, I had noted that our financial year to date deficit had been a negative (\$26,289). July numbers were awesome where we saw a monthly positive cashflow of \$24,932 that resulted in us reducing our year-to-date deficit to a negative (\$1,357).

How fortunate we are to have had the opportunity to park cars at EAA and share in the revenue earned, resulting in us earning \$18,877.

Thank you to Jeff and Mary Ann Bartels for allowing us this opportunity and to the many members that stepped up to help with this work. Also thank you to the members of our congregation for giving a little extra to help with our financial needs when we really needed it.

While July was a wonderful month for us financially, we need to remain vigilant about keeping up our revenue and keeping our expenses in line as we move forward month to month. Thank you to all.

July 2023 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	16,991	23,277	122,022	115,861
Other Income	3,337	20,492	26,886	34,197
Total Income	20,328	43,768	148,908	150,059
Total Expenses	23,356	18,836	154,399	151,416
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(3,028)	24,932	(5,491)	(1,357)

Kim Winter
Treasurer

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

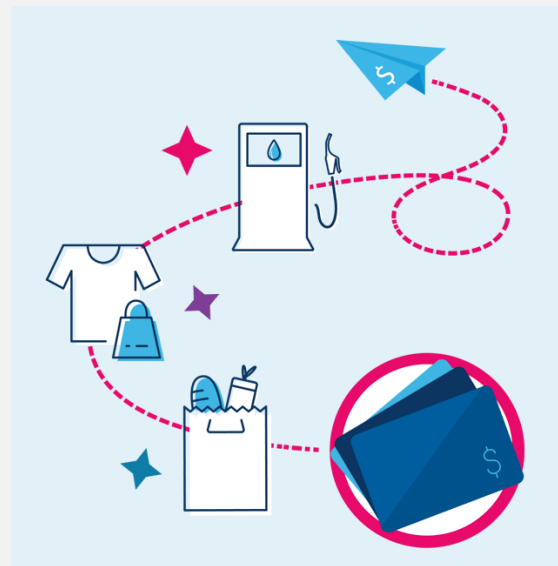
[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

RaiseRight Gift Cards



RAISERIGHT ORDERS ARE DUE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

**Drop your order off any weekday morning prior to the 3rd in the church office.
We will give you a call when your order is ready for pickup!**

We do have a limited supply of certain gift cards available on Sunday mornings in the lower narthex, and weekday mornings in the church office. Remember, there are some gift cards that are reloadable so you are never without a card for your purchases. There is a gift card available for all of those things needed to start the new school year just right!

Many thanks to **LEANNE MONROE & LISA SMITH** for managing and ordering the cards. Thank you to **MARGARET YODER & SANDRA GOLLIHER** for your help with the card sales on Sunday mornings.

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Food Pantry

We could use your help filling our food pantry shelves! As our numbers increase and our government commodities decrease, we could use some help. We currently have an abundance of soup and canned vegetables, however, we are low on other items. Each month we are going to feature a new item which we could use in the pantry. **The food item for September will be PEANUT BUTTER!** The next time you go shopping, grab a jar of peanut butter and bring it to church. Please place it in the black wire basket in the lower narthex. Please remember that ANY non-perishable food items are always welcome.



[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Thank You

- Thank you again to **CORY SCHULTZ, ZACH WOLF, KIM WINTER, JODY SCHAICK, LISA SMITH AND LEANNE MONROE** for continuing to videotape our services, run the livestream and running the projection screen for our worship services. Please know that anyone can help with running the screen. If you have any questions, please ask anyone currently helping with the technology.
- Thank you **CORY SCHULTZ & LISA SMITH** for keeping our website up to date.
- Thank you to **JIM SCHAICK** for mowing the lawn and taking care of the outside maintenance.
- Thank you to our coffee hour crew! Thanks **DENNIS & KAREN CHAPIN, MARY DINKINS & MARILYN MORRISON** for having coffee and donuts for us and cleaning up after coffee hour.
- We appreciate having a very dependable core group of people cleaning around the church. If this is something you would like to help with, please go on our website and sign up! Thank you to **LEANNE MONROE, LISA SMITH, KIM WINTER AND DEBRA KRAEMER** for staying on top of the cleaning around the building.
- Thanks Ray! 😊
- Thank you to **KAY LUND** for cleaning out the Sunday school rooms.
- Thank you to **TOM STARK** for staying on top of the electrical repairs around the building.
- Thank you to **HENRY CARON, GAIL HABLE, RAY HITZ, CHERYL PEPPLER, SANDRA FOLSKE, DEBRA KRAEMER, PETER SMITH, MARY DINKINS, RICK PEPPLER, JIM SCHAICK & DAN MONROE** for your continued help in the food pantry!
- Thank you to all of our volunteers who help keep Emmanuel running so smoothly!

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Thank You

- **THANK YOU SO MUCH to our wonderful volunteers who parked cars for EAA the week of the air show! Thank you to:**

Dan Rogers

Jim Schaick

Rene Rogers

Jody Schaick

Mike Winter

Al Schaick

Kim Winter

Earl Dorst

Leanne Monroe

Lori Dorst

Dan Monroe

Randy Whittaker

Tom Stark

Carolyn Rukas

Pastor Andi

Sandy Golliher

Thank you to Ron Golliher for organizing the parking!

- **We can't thank Jeff & MaryAnn Bartels enough for allowing us to use their property to park the cars. We raised \$18,877.00 which will go towards our general budget. GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!!**

Our **Pizza Ranch Fundraiser** held on Monday, August 14th, was a great success!! Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed the food and fellowship! We raised \$598.83 at this event! Thank you to Pastor Andi, Leanne Monroe, Gary & Kay Lund, Tom Stark and Lori Holland for working.



[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

Calendar

[Back to Top](#)

Coming Up

CONFIRMATION CLASS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH – 6:00PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Rally Day Sunday, September 10th – 9:00am

Sunday, September 24th 10:00am – 11:00am

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 – 6:30PM



Sunday School

Back to School Fair...

Thank you to everyone who purchased clothing and put it under the Christmas Tree for the Back to School Fair, which was held on August 15th & 17th at Oshkosh North High School. We also received \$375 and were able to purchase 15 – \$25 WalMart gift cards through our RaiseRight program which also benefitted Emmanuel. Your generosity will help those students in need start the school year out with some new clothes!

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

NOISY COLLECTION - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH BENEFITTING OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

MISSION PROJECT

**Save your loose coins and
let's make some noise!!**



Memorials & Honorarium

AUGUST MEMORIAL & ENDOWMENT REPORT

In loving memory of **NATHAN WILSON**

A gift to the **Memorial Fund** by

Ron & Joan Gorchels

Ron & Sandra Golliher

Dan & Rene Rogers

Dan & Leanne Monroe

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[**Memorials & Honorarium**](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Church Council

Church Council Meeting Minutes August 8, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Leanne. Opening prayer by Pastor Andi.

President's Report: Blinds- - Quote from Tom's Custom blinds \$2660. Funds come from Memorial and Endowment Blind Fund, originally from Daughters of Sarah. Purchase approved. EAA parking was very successful, making a total of \$25,050, with \$18,787 of that going to the church. There is a Pizza Ranch fundraiser August 14th. Looking through the council terms, none are expiring the next election so all members who would like can run again.

Secretary's Report: Zach said there were some slight corrections in the minutes, which were adjusted. Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed June financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of \$7,368.08 with a negative YTD of \$26,288.85. Alliant Energy stock was +\$1.02 (1.98%), in June, with a YTD of -\$2.73 (4.94%). Majority of expenses for the month were Employees Pension & Andi's Health Insurance, Andi's Taxes, 2nd Qtr Fed & SS Taxes, WPS and Aware 3 (Website) Annual Fee. Reviewed July financial reports. We had a positive cash flow of \$24,932.10 with a negative YTD of \$1,356.75. Alliant Energy stock was +\$1.26 (2.40%), in July, with a YTD of -\$1.47 (2.66%). Majority of expenses for the month were Employees Pension & Andi's Health Insurance, Workers Comp/Church Insurance, OCWM, 2nd Qtr Fed & SS Taxes, WPS and 2nd Qtr State Taxes. Kim said EAA was a big boost for us, about \$10,000 more than last year, which helps a lot to balance the budget. Kim also mentioned to keep the sidewalk replacements in mind, as that will be a big expense coming up soon. Treasurer's Report was accepted.

(CONTINUED)

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Church Council

Church Council Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2023

(CONTINUED)

Pastor's Report: General: Staffing Sunday School continues to be an issue. With Rachel Dehne out, we are in a tough spot. I had hoped to step back from teaching a class but that does not seem possible if we want to have classes for all the kids. We were contacted by Fox Cities Magazine about putting an ad in their Faith and Worship section of their "This is Oshkosh" city guide. Cost is \$195. Kim Henning would like to come speak to the council in January about the conference Capital Fund Campaign. I have begun to actively consider a sabbatical. Last Month: I have had 2 funerals since our last meeting, Ron Gafner on June 23 and Clarence Freiberg on July 29. I also officiated an interment for Wendy Baehman (funeral was January 14) on July 15. I had a wedding on June 24 for Evan Lehman and Ashley Hirte. This Month: We have a baptism August 13 for Reid Muelemans, son of Mike and Brittany (Conger) Muelemans (I did their marriage ceremony in 2018.) I am requesting vacation August 18-24. Karen Darnick, who has gone through Lay Academy, will be preaching Sunday.

Trustee's Report: Craig sprayed weeds. Tom is asking for the sanctuary and narthex doors to stay closed in order to keep the air conditioning where it needs to be. Leanne asked that people periodically check the dehumidifier we have downstairs, emptying it when possible. Trustees are also looking at hooking it up to a drain downstairs. Jim asked about keeping the fridge downstairs off, since we don't use it much. The council agreed that, once fully emptied, we can look at keeping it off as long as it turns back on easily in case it needs to be used, which it looks like it will.

Old Business: Financial Reconciliation/Internal Audit - No update. Sidewalks have started being replaced, but the bill isn't expected until late this year, so no further updates.

New Business: For the doors being locked during the day, currently the plan is for Lori to have a sign in order to call when someone is stopping by if she is alone, so she can walk down and open the doors for them. Any other (hopefully cheap/free) ideas can be brought forward, but this is the best course the council believes at this time. Kwik Trip has car wash cards that can be used for fundraising. It's for 5 of the Ultimate car washes, and we would be able to sell them for probably around \$40 (about 20% cheaper than 5 car washes) per card. Phone system - No update, the council agreed to keep using it until we can't then look into it further down the line.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous

Would you like to help with running the Projector, Cleaning or doing the Readings on Sunday?

It's easy to sign up! Just go to our website www.emmanueloshkosh.org click on Get Involved, then click on how can I help. Scroll down the page to what you would like to sign up for such as the Cleaning, this will take you to the sign up page and you can select what days and tasks work for you! Thanks for your consideration!



Projector



Liturgist



Cleaning

Please join us for our next fundraiser which will be held at: **FIREHOUSE SUBS**

1890 S. Koeller Street

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

Look for further details in our upcoming bulletins and October Lamplighter!

Look for our Kwik Trip Car Wash Fundraiser. The cards will be sold as a presale the end of September through October, with delivery in November. Each card will be \$40 – good for 5 car washes.



- [A Note From Pastor](#)
- [Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)
- [Treasurer's Nook](#)
- [RaiseRight](#)
- [Food Pantry](#)
- [Thank you!](#)
- [Coming up...](#)
- [Sunday School](#)
- [Memorials & Honorarium](#)
- [Church Council](#)
- [Miscellaneous](#)**
- [Calendar](#)
- [Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous



Labyrinth Brick Order Form....

The bricks that are available are in the 4x8 size
Three lines, 11 characters per line including spaces

The cost per brick is \$60.00 (this includes engraving and return postage)

If you would like to purchase a brick in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the order blank below. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 920-235-8340 or by email at office@emmanueloshkosh.org.

Please include your name: _____

Number of bricks you would like to purchase_____

Amount Due_____

# of Bricks	Honor, Memory of or...	First Name(s)	Last Name

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous

Please remember if you are having surgery or a procedure done, please call the church office 920-235-8340 or send us an email at office@emmanueloshkosh.org and let us know. Pastor Andi would like to be there for you and your family at this difficult time.

Please remember, if you have a prayer request you can enter it on our website at www.emmnaueleshkosh.org. You can also call the church office at 920-235-8340 any weekday morning.

SOUP2GO

ORDERS ARE DUE OCTOBER 15TH PICK UP WILL BE AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 22ND \$7.00 PER QUART

CHILI WITHOUT BEANS	HOW MANY _____
CHILI WITH BEANS	HOW MANY _____
CHICKEN DUMPLING	HOW MANY _____
FRENCH ONION	HOW MANY _____
LOADED BAKED POTATO	HOW MANY _____

NAME _____

AMOUNT DUE _____

YOU CAN ALSO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE 235-8340 OR EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE office@emmanueloshkosh.org TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous

Church Council Message

On behalf of Emmanuel's Church Council, I am writing to all members, friends, and supporters of Emmanuel United Church of Christ. I would like to make you aware of a couple fundraisers we as a Council have decided to try.

- **Kwik Trip Car wash cards-** We will be trying this as a presale during late September – October. The sign up will be available to you on the Raiseright table. You may also contact Lori in the office to sign up for it. Payment will be due at the time of sign up. Cards will be 5 Ultimate car washes for \$40. They can be used at any Kwik Trip/Kwik Star car wash. The profit to the church will be \$20 per card. This is a huge profit in our fundraiser standards. The cards will be ordered and available within a few days after the sign-up ends. We are looking to run this through late October with card delivery by November 1st. You can get an early start on some stocking stuffers or holiday gift ideas!
- **Firehouse Subs dine out night-** Monday, October 9th we will be at Firehouse Subs for another dine out opportunity with proceeds coming to Emmanuel for the event. Details for this will be coming soon, make sure to mark your calendars when details become available.
- **Sidewalk square purchase-** We are looking at different ways for people to donate to the sidewalk replacement debt we are facing this year. Those interested in purchasing a square of the sidewalk or apron approach, the cost of the typical 5'x5' 4" squares are approximately \$300 and the 6" squares are \$330.
- More information will be coming in the coming weeks as we look for ways to fund the debt we are incurring from the replacement. The actual figures for the final cost are not available until the work is completed by the city and we receive an invoice.
- If anyone has any questions or ideas on additional fundraising opportunities, please reach out to a Council member, Pastor Andi. We are open to discussing all ideas.

Leanne Monroe

2023 Council President

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!!!

The Emmanuel Chime Choir is ready to start making noise. Join us in the Sanctuary on Wednesday September 13th at 6:00 P.M. No previous experience required. If you are a under 12 I ask that a parent also joins with you. If you who have played in the past please let me know whether you are returning. When I know who will be there I can have music ready for us to play that night!

Thanks, Lisa!



Well, My Dear Chancel Choir Friends - It is that time of year again. Summer is winding down and the Fall season is gearing up. Since I am anticipating that we will be experiencing the same low participation numbers as in recent years, our schedule is going to be based primarily upon your availability. There are, however, 4 services that I do want us to participate in: Sunday, Oct. 1st (World Communion Sunday), Sunday, Oct. 8th (singing with the Sunday School), Wed., Nov. 22 (Thanksgiving Eve), and Sunday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve). There will be at least one rehearsal on the Wednesday prior to the day we sing. Participation in any other services will depend solely upon how many of you are available. I would greatly appreciate it if - at your earliest convenience - you could give me a list of all the dates thru Christmas when you know you will be gone. Thanks very much! Mary

*****GENERAL NOTE*** THE CHANCEL CHOIR WOULD GLADLY AND WARMLY WELCOME ANY AND ALL NEW SINGERS INTERESTED IN SHARING THEIR TALENTS WITH US AND EMMANUEL!!!** Contact Mary for any information or with any questions! :)

- [A Note From Pastor](#)
- [Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)
- [Treasurer's Nook](#)
- [RaiseRight](#)
- [Food Pantry](#)
- [Thank you!](#)
- [Coming up...](#)
- [Sunday School](#)
- [Memorials & Honorarium](#)
- [Church Council](#)
- [Miscellaneous](#)**
- [Calendar](#)
- [Back to Top](#)

Miscellaneous

If you have any questions or concerns for the Church Council, Memorial and Endowment Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee, please find the contact information below:

Church Council

Leanne Monroe	<i>President</i>	Dan Rogers	<i>Vice-President</i>
Zach Wolf	<i>Secretary</i>	Kim Winter	<i>Treasurer</i>
Craig Geiger	<i>Trustee</i>	Jim Schaick	<i>Trustee</i>
Noah Wilson	<i>Trustee</i>	Tom Stark	<i>Trustee</i>
Debra Kraemer	<i>Deacon</i>	Rene Rogers	<i>Deacon</i>
Robin Wilson	<i>Deacon</i>	Connie Whittaker	<i>Deacon</i>

Memorial/Endowment Committee:

Gerry Keuler	Ann Stark
Kathleen Hable	Henry Caron
Sandy Golliher	Margaret Yoder
Emily Reyes	

Pastoral Relations Committee:

Sandra Golliher	Kay Lund
Julie Barthels	Lori Potratz
Faith Lueck	

Please consider volunteering for any of these committees, please contact the church office 235-8340 if you are interested.

[A Note From Pastor](#)

[Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes](#)

[Treasurer's Nook](#)

[RaiseRight](#)

[Food Pantry](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Coming up...](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Memorials & Honorarium](#)

[Church Council](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

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[Back to Top](#)

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