



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.



THANKSGIVING EVE

worship

Wednesday, November 22, 2023
7:00pm

We will be blessing the food collected during the month of November for the food pantry.



From the Desk of Pastor Andi

November, 2023

What are you afraid of? Some of the things that scare us the most are kind of funny. My youngest won't use the bathroom if she sees a spider in there and it hasn't been removed. She'll come all the way downstairs and I'll ask, 'why aren't you using your bathroom?' When she responds with, 'I saw a spider in there this morning and I don't know where it went,' I usually just shake my head. She knows it is ridiculous. But it is easier for her to walk downstairs than to meet the illogical fear that comes from a teeny tiny spider head on.

Fear can be a good thing. Scripture tells us that fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Fear of getting in trouble has kept a great many of us from doing things we shouldn't. Fear can keep us from doing things that can harm us and therefore the fear of bodily harm has kept us safe. Deeply woven into our fabric is a 'fight or flight' trigger and sometimes survival depends on us listening and choosing flight.

But fear can also keep us from doing good things. Fear can immobilize us. Fear of failure and general self-doubt can convince us to not even try. And when we don't try, we cannot succeed. Hockey great Wayne Gretzky famously said, 'You miss 100% of the shots you don't take'. Fear can cause us to close ourselves off from others. The fear of getting hurt, emotionally or physically, can move us toward isolation. I have seen this with people who have been deeply hurt in a relationship when a person leaves them (either by choice or through death) or cheats on them. Afraid to be hurt again, they do not risk themselves again in another relationship. Fear motivated deep isolation during our pandemic, and some were never able to get back into the greater community for fear of physical harm.

Like so many things in this world, fear is an important part of life and living. It is useful in the right time and place. It is destructive in the wrong time and intensity. That is why the bible encourages us time and time again to not be bound and limited by fear. We serve a God of unlimited power. We are equipped to do all that we are called to do. We need to take the shots, understanding that we will miss sometimes. The challenge we have—indeed the challenge we have always had—is reigning in our fear so that the Spirit can do its work in us, through us and around us. We need to get out of our own way so that we can succeed. Simply put, we need to fully trust in our God.

- Pastor Andi, pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org

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November 2023	
Sunday, November 5, 2023	Ron & Sandra Golliher
Sunday, November 12, 2023	Dan & Rene Rogrs
Sunday, November 19, 2023	Brad & Liz Schultz
Wednesday, November 22, 2023 7:00p (Thanksgiving Eve)	Volunteers Needed
Sunday, November 26, 2023	Mike & Alice Peppler

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Treasurer's Nook

It seems the weather changed overnight going from nice, sunny and warm to cold, windy and drabby. As I sit looking out the window at the cloudy and overcast weather, I am still reminded of all the beauty around with the colorful leaves and the blessings to be inside a warm home.

We continue to struggle to meet our monthly financial needs ending the month with a negative cash flow of (-\$4,349) and resulting in a year-to-date cashflow of negative (-\$8,072). We also have the upcoming sidewalk costs that we are anticipating to be approx. \$13,000 that we need to be aware of and will impact the cash reserves. Overall, we are still doing okay but we all need to be aware of our situation.

Thank you to everyone that supports us through your regular giving, various fund raisers, giving of your time and talents and ongoing prayers. We are a blessed congregation and it's sometimes easy to forget this as we get caught up in the small details.

September 2023 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	17,261	14,225	156,289	143,125
Other Income	3,897	1,191	34,992	38,775
Total Income	21,158	15,416	191,281	181,900
Total Expenses	21,878	19,765	198,070	189,972
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(720)	(4,349)	(6,789)	(8,072)

Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Kim Winter
Treasurer

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RaiseRight Gift Cards

RAISERIGHT ORDERS ARE DUE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Orders can be dropped off any Sunday morning, or weekday mornings in the church office prior to the 5th.

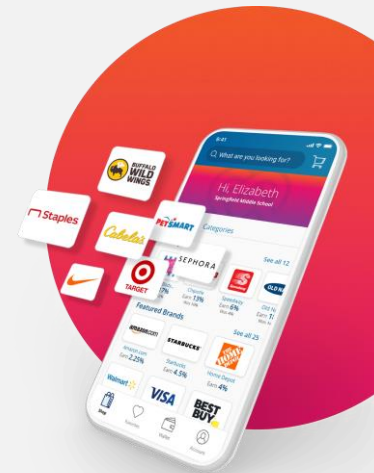
Lori will give you a call when your gift cards have arrived. The holidays are fast approaching!

Pick up a grocery gift card for your Thanksgiving meal. Are you traveling to visit your relatives?

Pick up a gas card for your trip. It's never too early to start your Christmas shopping! Pick up a gift card today!

Thank you to LEANNE MONROE, LISA SMITH, MARGARET YODER AND SANDRA GOLLIHER for managing and selling the gift cards.

If you want to learn how to order gift cards online or how to reload your gift cards, reach out to Leanne Monroe or Lisa Smith and they can help you out!



Food Pantry

Food Collection in November...

During the month of November we will be collecting non-perishable food items and placing them by the altar. The food will be blessed during the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 22nd. The following is a list of food items that we could use in the pantry:

Granola/Breakfast Bars, Jam/Jelly, Juice

*Canned Meals: Sloppy Joe, Chili, Beef Stew, Ravioli,
Spaghetti O's and Hamburger Helper*

Thank you for supporting Emmanuel's food pantry by bringing in the items we have been requesting on a monthly basis.



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Thank You

- *Thank you to EVERYONE who came out to Firehouse Subs on Monday, October 9th. We raised \$165.00!!!! Thank you to Leanne Monroe for volunteering to greet people from 4-7.*
- **Thank you to all of our AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!**
- **Our cleaning crew** – LEANNE MONROE, KIM WINTER, LISA SMITH & MEG HABLE.
- **Our food pantry crew** – HENRY CARON, MARGARET YODER, GAIL HABLE, SANDY FOLSKE, SHERRY PEPPLER, DEB KRAEMER, LISA SMITH, MARY DINKINS, RICK PEPPLER, RAY HITZ, PETER SMITH, DAN MONROE & JIM SCHAICK.
- **Our fall outdoor clean-up crew** – RON GOLLIHER, CRAIG GEIGER & LEANNE MONROE.
- **Our projection crew** – CORY SCHULTZ, ZACH WOLF, KIM WINTER, LEANNE MONROE, LISA SMITH & JODY SCHAICK.
- **Our Liturgists** – LINDA STOWE, PETER SMITH & JULIE BARTHELS.
- **Our coffee hour crew** – DENNIS & KAREN CHAPIN, MARY DINKINS, & MARILYN MORRISON.
- And Ray 😊

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CHIME CHOIR REHEARSALS

WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30PM

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 & 15 – 6:30PM

CONFIRMATION CLASS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 8, 15 & 29TH – 6:00PM

MEMORIAL & ENDOWMENT MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023 – 6:30PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH & 26TH AT 10:00AM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023 – 6:30PM

LAST THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 16TH AT 6:30PM

THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP WILL RESUME ON

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024 AT 6:30PM



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Church Council

Church Council Meeting Highlights October 10, 2023

Meeting called to order by Leanne. Opening prayer by Pastor Andi.

President's Report: Firehouse Subs - A little weird, but we'll see how it turned out—15% or 20%?. Kwik trip - cards being ordered in September got 20 cards, \$400 profit. Ordering again soon! Vandewalles fundraiser in November and December—ordered 80 candy bars: 1 bar for \$2, or 2 for \$3. Ron Golliher asked if he needed permission to do a fall clean-up. No vote necessary.

Secretary's Report: Accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed September financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of -\$4,348.93 with a negative YTD of -\$8,071.51. Alliant Energy stock was -\$1.72 (3.43%) this month, with a YTD of -\$6.76 (12.24%). The majority of expenses for the month were Employee Pension and Health Insurance, quarterly taxes, Operation Not Alone, Church Windows Support and WPS. Treasurer's report accepted.

Pastor's Report: General: We are aware of some sound issues and are looking to fix them. My mic has a short in the wire that connects the headset to the transmitter and I have ordered a new one. Last Month: Zach did a great job leading worship while I was away. I have had 5 funerals since our last meeting, EUCC members Jim Kraemer September 28, Nancy Wolf October 5 and Dorothy Simons October 8 and non-members Joan Quinn September 16 and Beverly Rothenbach September 26. This Month: We have 2 baptisms in October. Weston Jeffrey Winters (Devin and Joelle Winter) on October 15 and Blake Allan Butzen (Mack and Melissa Butzen) on October 22. October 22 is our Trunks for Treats date. Sunday School to follow. It is also Soup2Go pick up. That will take place in the kitchen/fellowship area. Susan Fuchs of Operation Not Alone would like to use the fellowship hall October 29 to assemble Cheer and Care packages. The Cheer packages go out so veterans can receive them by November 11 and the Care Packages go out around Christmas.

Folks are invited to come down and help. For the Future: We are hoping to reserve the Oshkosh West Madrigals again this year.

Vice President's Report: 2 deacon positions open. Earl Dorst said he'd finish 1 unexpired term. Continue asking around for anyone interested.

Deacon's Report: Rene reported we need to clean the altar cloths.

(CONTINUED)

Church Council

Church Council Meeting Minutes October 10, 2023 (CONTINUED)

Old Business: Sidewalk replacement - It looks like it's done but no price yet. \$350 has been donated. Financial Reconciliation process - Leanne met with Lori and went through the processes and talked about Leanne learning the basics of things like Church Windows so that we have backups. Internal audit - Leanne asked some people about doing an audit.

New Business: 2024 budget - Kim asks if anyone wants to help brainstorm. People have asked why we still give to the conference when our budget is stretched- direct to pastor with questions. People have asked why we don't sell our WPS stock and it's in order to keep things long term, not look for short term solutions. Red robin fundraiser, checking with them to see if it's possible. Building use fee, adding building use expectations? Lori has a general outline she gives verbally but getting that in writing as another guarantee is a good idea.

Good & Welfare: We had a request from someone cleaning the church to have a key and code. The council is worried about people being here alone and getting hurt. We aren't sure giving keys to anyone wanting to clean is a good precedent to set. Pastor was given gifts for Pastor Appreciation Month.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

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We have many volunteer opportunities at Emmanuel!



If you would like to be an usher, please contact the church office. Ushering involves at least two people willing to pass along the collection plate during worship and bringing it up to the altar. The Usher schedule is posted in the monthly Lamplighter and the bulletin.

We can always use volunteers to run the projector during worship, assisting Pastor Andi by reading the liturgy during worship, and to help keep Emmanuel clean, we could use help with cleaning different areas of the building. You can sign up by going on 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! Leanne Monroe or Kim Winter would be happy to help you sign up!



Christmas Decoration is Saturday, December 2 at 9:00a – Volunteers are needed please.

As always, we would like to extend an invitation to everyone in the church the opportunity to have an ornament representing their family on our “Family” Christmas trees in the upper narthex. If you would like to add an ornament on the tree, please bring it to the church office and we will enter it in the log book and place it on the tree. Thank you!

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



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.

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POINSETTIA & EMMANUEL CHURCH DONATIONS

We are offering the option of ordering a Poinsettia or making a donation to Emmanuel Church in honor or memory of a loved one this holiday season. *If you are ordering a Poinsettia orders have to be in by December 3rd with your payment. If you are making a donation to Emmanuel please have your donation in by December 10th.* Please Print your information clearly. Thank you!

If you are ordering a Poinsettia, please make sure you are able to pick it up after Christmas!

Poinsettia Order Form – Please Print
In Memory of:
In Honor of:
Given By:
How Many (Poinsettia) _____ Amount: \$_____ \$15 ea
Emmanuel Donation Amount: \$_____
<i>Deadline for Poinsettia orders is December 3, 2023</i>
<i>Deadline for Emmanuel Donations is December 10, 2023</i>



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CANDY BAR SALE FUNDRAISER

We will be selling Vandewalles Candy Bars on Sunday mornings in the lower narthex and weekday mornings in the church office. Candy bars will be sold for \$2.00 each or 2 for \$3.00. The flavors available are, toffee, mint, peanut butter, chocolate truffle, caramel, caramel nut, milk chocolate and dark chocolate. The candy bars will be sold during November and December, just in time for the holidays!! These candy bars would make great stocking stuffers! 😊



Celebration of Lights at EAA Campgrounds

This year the Celebration of Lights will be held at the EAA Campgrounds. We will need volunteers to help with the food collection from 5:00 – 9:00pm on THURSDAY THRU MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH-DECEMBER 18TH AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH.

We aren't sure exactly how things are going to be organized this year. We hope to have further information available in the December Lamplighter. We hope that you will consider volunteering for one of the nights that we have available. Call the church office (920-235-8340) or email the church office at office@emmanueloshkosh.org if you are interested.

*"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings,
turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary
opportunities into blessings."*

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"It's not too early to think about Emmanuel's upcoming "Giving Tree."

This special tree was originally called "The Bunny Tree"...then "The Mitten Tree"-sponsored by Daughters of Sarah. This year, our new "Giving Tree," which will be located in the lower narthex, will be collecting special items for members our community in need for the upcoming winter weather and will be given at Christmas.

If you knit, warm scarves are always appreciated. Men's items often needed are warm socks and/or gloves and hats. (Hint: Menards often has packs of thermal socks on sale). Colorful scarves, mittens/gloves were given to a local school last year, where they were given to children who had none. Father Carr's Place to Be has been a recipient of women's and children's items, but wherever they go, our gifts are always very much appreciated.

It's not too soon to plan ahead! Items can be dropped off with Carolyn or Marilyn at Sunday's Fellowship Hour...or give them to Mary Dinkins or Lori in the office. They will be stored and put under the tree as soon as it's up!!

Thank you in advance for your help in making the holidays a little brighter (and warmer) for our neighbors!!

Here are some of the items on the Day by Day Shelter's Wish List:

Snack/Breakfast Foods	Paper Towels
Applesauce Cups	Body Wash
Fruit Cups/Juice Boxes	Melatonin
Men's Underwear & Thermal Hats & Gloves	Accordian Files

Thanks Everyone!

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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

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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.

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Visit us on social media.

