



# Emmanuel

United Church of Christ

1306 Michigan Street  
Oshkosh, WI 54902  
920.235.8340  
[emmanueloshkosh.org](http://emmanueloshkosh.org)

the lamplighter

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





**We are honoring Emmanuel's  
High School & College  
Graduates  
Sunday, June 2nd  
during the 9:00am Worship Service**



***Congratulations Graduates!  
May God continue to bless you as you begin  
this new journey.***

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## From the Desk of Pastor Andi

June 2024

A little bit ago I issued a challenge to whomever was willing: go 1 week (just 7 days) without saying anything negative about anyone. This was to include people close to us who have hurt us, as well as public figures such as athletes and politicians. Now, this doesn't mean we can't disagree with them, only that we can't be nasty. I am not sure if many accepted that challenge, but I have heard from a few of you. It isn't as easy as we thought it might be.

So much in life, both good and bad, changes incrementally. As we speak to young people who clamor for change and want it right now, those of us who have been around for a little while try to encourage patience, for change takes time. Whatever you want fixed probably didn't happen overnight and its not going to get fixed overnight.

Jesus was an advocate for positive change. He didn't jump up and down and call the religious leaders nasty names. Instead, he spoke to the people, wherever they were, and encouraged them to use their own minds. He spoke of the ways in which God wanted them to live and mused aloud if the leadership helped that 'God-view' come to be. Like today, people were burdened with taxes and financial obligations that left them feeling helpless. They felt held back and unheard. Jesus didn't whip them into a frenzy and encourage chaos—he spoke to them and encourage them to make positive change. In fact, his calls were to imagine the people you really don't like, and then see them as the hero in the parable (see the good Samaritan).

Simply put, the forces of evil absolutely love chaos and bitterness. If we are blinded by our own negative thoughts about people, it is so easy to believe the worst about them. Evil encourages bitterness while good calls for love. Evil demands revenge, but good calls for grace. Evil tells us to ignore the log in our own eye as we point to the splinter in our neighbor's eye. Evil knows the things that preoccupy us, those were the very things Satan tempted Jesus with in the wilderness. He knows that when our attention is elsewhere, it is easier to sow those seeds of destruction. Sadly, we sometimes forget.

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## From the Desk of Pastor Andi

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*Continued...*

Change happens incrementally. Negative thoughts creep in and if we don't evict them immediately, they take up residence. The human condition (or what Paul calls 'the ways' or 'desires' of the flesh) tells us if it is OK to put our own self interest first, even if it means someone else suffers. The ways of Jesus, or the way of the divine, calls us to love neighbor as self.

That incremental change goes in the other direction as well. The more we welcome the positive, the more embedded it becomes in our lives. The more we begin to consider needs of others as important as our own, the more a Jesus-like world view becomes the norm for us. The more we choose to see all sides of an issue, the more we make wise decisions.

Thanks to all who chose to take me up on my challenge—I hope it offered some food for thought. And for those who did not, I encourage you to consider why you didn't. Maybe that will be a place of contemplation as well.

As for me—yeah, I still have work to do! But that is OK. I am pretty sure I will always have work to do on myself as I walk this blessing-filled path of faith.

*Pastor Andi*

[pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org](mailto:pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org)

# Usher Schedule

Would you like to Usher? Call the church office if you are interested. We will work around your schedule!

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June 2024	
Sunday, June 2, 2024 9:00am	Earl & Laurie Dorst
Sunday, June 9, 2024 9:00am	Ron & Sandra Golliher
Sunday, June 16, 2024 9:00am	Dan & Rene Rogers
Sunday, June 23, 2024 9:00am	Brad & Liz Schultz
Sunday, June 30, 2024 9:00am	Volunteers Needed

July 2024	
Sunday, July 7, 2024 9:00am	Ron & Sandra Golliher
Sunday, July 14, 2024 9:00am	Dan & Rene Rogers
Sunday, July 21, 2024 9:00am	Brad & Liz Schultz
Sunday, July 28, 2024 9:00am	Volunteers Needed

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# Treasurer's Nook

April results reflected a negative cashflow of (\$8,335) wiping out much of last month's gains and leaving us with a negative year-to-date cashflow of (\$2,284). As we enter the summer months, our previous years giving's have typically been lower, leaving us with larger year to date deficits and something for us to try and overcome.

The Council continues to monitor and look for ways to address our financial needs. Last year, the July EAA parking cars event raised almost \$19,000 in revenue and made a positive impact to last year's financial results. This event takes many people to help run so if you are able to help even if for a little bit, it will make a big difference. Please contact Lori in the office if you are interested.

## April 2024 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	17,844	13,292	69,247	73,514
Other Income	3,859	925	18,330	7,790
Total Income	21,703	14,217	87,577	81,304
Total Expenses	24,457	22,552	91,327	83,588
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(2,754)	(8,335)	(3,750)	(2,284)

Kim Winter  
Treasurer

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## RaiseRight Gift Cards

RAISERIGHT ORDERS ARE DUE

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024 & SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2024

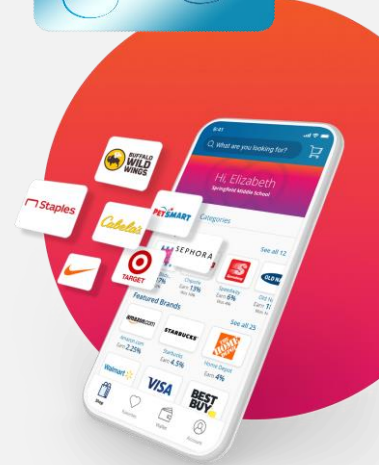
We will let you know when your gift cards are available!

Pick up a card for those graduates and for Father's Day!

We have a limited supply of certain cards available for sale in the church office or on Sunday in the lower narthex.

Thank you so much to **Leanne Monroe and Lisa Smith** for managing the program so that it is available to us.  
Thank you also to **Margaret Yoder and Sandra Golliher** for selling the cards on Sunday.

Thank you to those that participate on a regular basis as well as those of you who have just started to take advantage of the program!



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## Food Pantry

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Thank you to **Henry Caron, Ray Hitz, Earl Dorst, Lisa Smith, Lori Potratz, Mike & Kim Winter, Jody Schaick, Dan & Leanne Monroe, Mary Dinkins and Carol Wiechman**, for your help with the Scouting Food Drive held on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Thank you also to everyone who contributed food to this drive. A **BIG** thank you to all of the Scouts in the Oshkosh area for collecting the food.

Thank you to **Henry Caron, Mike & Kim Winter, Ray Hitz, Mark, Amy & Gavin Holland, Earl Dorst, Debra Kraemer, Nora Dehne, Milo Dehne, Dan & Leanne Monroe, Mary Dinkins, Lisa Smith, Carol Wiechman, Gail Hable and Sue Scheller** for your help with the Letter Carrier Food Drive held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. We received a generous amount of food items to fill our shelves. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this food drive.

Thank you to those of you who volunteer in the food pantry on a regular basis. Thank you to **Henry Caron, Ray Hitz, Gail Hable, Sherry Peppler, Sandy Folske, Debra Kraemer, Lisa Smith, Jody Schaick, Mary Dinkins, Peter Smith, Dan Monroe, Jim Schaick and Rick Peppler**.

Thank you to **Jay Koepke and Fesitval Foods and Red's Piggly Wiggly** for their continued support of our pantry.



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## Thank you!

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Thank you to **Julie Barthels, Linda Stowe, Quinn Bursack and Debra Kraemer** for your help with the scripture readings during worship.

Thank you to **Jody Schaick, Lisa Smith, Leanne Monroe, Zach Wolf, Kim Winter, Cory Schultz & Noah Wilson** for running the projector and video system during worship.

Thank you to **Lisa Smith, Kim Winter, Leanne Monroe & Craig Geiger & Family** for your help cleaning around the church.

*If you would like to volunteer to help with any of these ongoing things, it's easy to sign up! Go to our website [www.emmanueloshkosh.org](http://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!*

Thankyou to **Karen & Dennis Chapin, Mary Dinkins & Marilyn Morrison** for your help picking up the donuts, setting up coffee hour and cleaning up after. We appreciate you!

Thank you Ray!! 😊

Thank you to **Jim Schaick** for taking care of the outside lawn maintenance.

Thank you to **Ann Stark** for providing the kid's activity bags.

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## Coming Up

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**Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

Church Council Meeting | 6:30p

*No Meeting in July*

**Sunday, June 30, 2024**

Noisy Collection

*Help us make some noise for our Sunday School Mission Projects!*

**Thursday, July 4, 2024**

*There will be no Thursday night Worship*

**July 22 – July 28, 2024**

*Emmanuel will be parking cars for EAA*



# Sunday School

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## Looking for a way to volunteer your time at church?

Our Sunday school program is looking for caring individuals to help co-teach Sunday school. We are looking for volunteers to help once a month or in the classrooms when you can.

Our Sunday school hour is 10:00am – 11:00am. We meet twice a month, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. The first 15 minutes, all of the classes meet in church and the students practice a song with Mary. They then go to their individual classrooms for their 15-20 minute lesson. Then craft time for the rest of the hour.

If you are interested in co-teaching in our Sunday school program please contact the church office or Kay Lund.



# Memorials & Honorarium

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## MAY MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM REPORT

In loving memory of **LYNDA MOHR**

A gift to the **Technology Fund** by

Mike & Kim Winter

Dan & Leanne Monroe

Gail & Meg Hable

Deb Kraemer

Jeff & Ann Stark

Dan & Rene Rogers

Jim & Jody Schaick

Peter & Lisa Smith

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## Church Council

### Church Council Meeting Highlights May 14, 2024

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

**President's Report:** Audit completed. The group put together a guideline/procedure for the future. Memorial and Endowment Report was sent out so we are up to date.

**Secretary's Report:** Report accepted as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed March financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of (\$8,335.49) with a negative YTD of (\$2,284.05). Alliant Energy stock was -\$0.60 (1.19%), this month, with a YTD of -\$1.50 (2.92%). Treasurer's report was accepted.

**Pastor's Report:** Last Month: The NEA Annual Meeting was April 20. Leanne Monroe and I attended. I think it went well. A good amount of discussion about media and worship. Thank you to Leanne and Mary. They did a fantastic job with both services while I was on vacation. Memorial and Endowment meeting went well. Minutes were sent so the council is aware of discussions. This Month: Officiated at the funeral of Yvonne Volkman. Her late husband, David, was the son of Carl and June Volkman. Sunday is confirmation. The service will include Communion. I would like to present to the council our Confirmation Class of 2024: Scott Buering, Peyton Dorn, Farrah Finley, and Paige Geiger. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. For the Future: Graduation Recognition is June 2. Hannah's Party is June 22 at Sleepy Hollow Farms from 1-5—all are welcome.

Just a reminder, or a heads up, Lori is on vacation from Thursday, May 16 to Tuesday, May 28. I have been looking at laptops. We need someone to run the video for the June 2 service. Motion was made to receive the 2024 Confirmation Class as new members.

**Trustee's Report:** Weed treatment and outside bug treatment will be done soon. The boiler has been shut down for the season. The faucet in the multi-purpose room does not work. Tom will look at replacing it. The automatic feature on the front doors has been shut off a couple of times. Quick reminder to not leave that feature shut off. Tom is ready to start retrofitting the lights in the lower narthex to LED. Council approved a motion for Tom to start the retrofitting. He will do one row at a time.

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## Church Council

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Church Council Meeting Highlights May 14, 2024 *Continued...*

**Old Business:** Fundraisers: Panda Express earned \$127.73 and April Kwik Trip car wash cards earned \$180.

**New Business:** Donation made for window treatments for the upper narthex. Leanne will look into it. Leanne suggested we begin planning some 'painting days.' EAA Parking is a go. Discussion about having an afternoon shift added.

**Good & Welfare:** Kim suggested having a get-together with council members, staff, and spouses/partners. She will work on setting a date and time.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is on June 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

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### STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports congregations and initiatives that help us live into the United Church of Christ's "big ten" vision. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and renewal initiatives in existing congregations. Our conference and the national ministries work together to use these funds for projects that matter now and for the future of our movement. Please use the envelope enclosed in this Lamplighter for your donation. Please also remember to put your name on the envelope to receive proper credit to your account. Thank you!!

### EMMANUEL WILL BE PARKING CARS FOR EAA – JULY 22 – JULY 28

Thank you to **Jeff & MaryAnn Bartels** for allowing us to park cars on their property during EAA. We will be parking cars the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Volunteers will be needed to help park cars during the week. For further information, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Ron Golliher at 920—688-3456. This is an incredible fundraising opportunity for Emmanuel. Last year we raised \$18,877!! This helped support our general fund. Consider volunteering and have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world.

### COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

It's time to prepare for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Fair which will be held at Oshkosh North High School August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The committee is determined to assist over 1200 students in getting the supplies they need for the 2024/2025 school year.

We will have a Christmas Tree in the upper narthex during the month of July. On the tree will be backpack tags with the gender and clothing size of a student, along with clothing suggestions. Pick a tag and bring the items you have purchased back to church, unwrapped and place them under the tree. If you don't want to shop for clothes, you can pick a tag and write out a check payable to the Oshkosh Back to School Fair or purchase a gift card through our Raise Right program and place that under the tree. ***Please bring the clothing items, gift cards or checks back to church by August 4<sup>th</sup>.***

Please call the church office if you have any questions! Thanks!

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Sunday morning is usually a busy time for Pastor Andi. It would help her to remember if you are having surgery, or a procedure, if you could please call the church office (920-235-8340) or email the office at [office@emmanueloshkosh.org](mailto:office@emmanueloshkosh.org) and let Lori know so Pastor Andi can be with you and your family during this difficult time. Due to HIPAA the hospital is not allowed to call and let us know if you are a patient. Thank you for your help!

### **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE of WISCONSIN**

We are still collecting metal tabs from beverage cans for the Ronald McDonald House in Wisconsin. You can bring them in and drop them off in the office or in the little white church in the upper narthex. Thank you to **EARL & LAURIE DORST** for picking up and delivering these to St. Paul.

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We will be placing another brick order in June. If you would like to order a brick to be placed in the labyrinth this summer, please use the form below.

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.



Emmanuel UCC – Oshkosh Labyrinth Brick Order Form			
Name:			
Number of Bricks:			
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	Zach Wolf
Kim Winter	Dan Rogers
Debra Kraemer	Earl Dorst
Rene Rogers	Laurie Dorst
Craig Geiger	Noah Wilson
Tom Stark	Jim Schaick

### Memorial/Endowment Committee:

Gerry Keuler	Ann Stark
Deb Bartel	Jeff Stark
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.*



## Calendar

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