

Émmanuel

United Church of Christ

1306 Michigan Street Oshkosh, WI 54902 920.235.8340 emmanueloshkosh.org

thelamplighter

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



Emmanuel

United Church of Christ



11am Parade on Ohio Street—20th Avenue –South Park

We will be hosting a table at the children's parade!

We will participate in the parade with a float, host a game and give out leis as our theme is "Ohana"! Ohana means family. Family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten.

We hope to see you walking with us or waving to us from the street as we march by! Families who stop by our table will receive an Emmanuel frisbee and also have the opportunity to learn more about our church and Sunday School program!



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Pastor Andi's Message

August 2025

A mosquito snuck in one morning when I was letting my dog, Hugo, in from his morning romp around the yard. I did not know, of course, that a pesky mosquito entered the house. Until...I was sitting on the couch, drinking my coffee, checking emails, browsing the news— and I heard it. You know the sound...bzzzzzzzzzzz. It grew louder in my ear as the invading mosquito got closer. I found myself covering with a blanket so the silly thing wouldn't bite a patch of bare skin. I have had mosquito bites on my feet and I do not recommend that for anyone. It got me once on my wrist and I was too slow to slap him (don't ask; I am still wondering how I missed him). I slapped myself in the head, at least three times when I thought she got close enough to neutralize. Yup, I slapped *myself* on my own head!

Eventually I got her, or she died of old age; we will never know. But that teeny, tiny, single mosquito threw off my whole morning. My coffee got cold while I was sweating under a blanket in the middle of a heatwave. My ear hurt due to my frustration driven overzealousness when swatting at it. And I STILL got bitten once!

Why do we obsess about things? Why do we let annoyances get to us? Why are we willing to let the circumstances of today change us and our routines?

My battle with the mosquito was probably comical to watch. My battles with other annoyances, on the other hand, is not so funny. How we deal with the unplanned circumstances and obstacles that pop up in our life speaks volumes about our character. So often we are busy swatting away mosquitos that we don't see the blessings and opportunities right in front of us. Our frustration gets the better of us and we say and do things we shouldn't. We focus on the wrong things, and when our focus is not where it should be, our whole selves seem to wander in the wrong direction.

I still don't like mosquitos; they drive me crazy. But that little pest (may her little soul rest in peace) got me thinking about the ways this life pulls us in directions we never intended to go. Sometimes it's the Spirit that pulls us where we were meant to go. Other times it is a pull orchestrated buy forces not wanting good for us. I pray we all give thanks to God for the surprising blessings and opportunities we encounter. And just as importantly, when we find ourselves somewhere we shouldn't be, may we have the strength and courage to acknowledge our error and get back to where we know we should be.







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Ushers

You can sign up for ushering on our website in the "get Involved" Section. You can also call the church office if you are interested in ushering.

Please consider signing up!

August Usher Schedule

Sunday, August 3 – Ron & Sandra Golliher

Sunday, August 10 – Dan & Rene Rogers

Sunday, August 17 – Brad & Liz Schultz

Sunday, August 24 – Volunteers are needed! – Please sign up!

Sunday, August 31 – Volunteers are needed! – Please sign up!







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Treasurer's Nook

August 2025

As the temperatures start to rise and more people are enjoying the outdoors. May cash flow ended with a deficit (7,543) with the year to date cash flow at a deficit (9,425). June cash flow ended with a deficit (758) with year to date cash flow at a deficit (10,183).

Thank you to all that participated in the Raise Right program which will also have carwash cards for sale to help keep your cars clean through summer. As you have heard we will be parking cars again this year for EAA. Please consider helping us park cars July 21-27 this is a big fund raiser for the church. If you have any questions regarding the RaiseRight program stop at the desk before the service on Sunday morning or give our office a call.

May 2025 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	17,053	11,028	87,318	88,661
Other Income	4,836	2,238	21,396	11,876
Total Income	21,889	13,267	108,714	100,537
Total Expenses	21,223	20,810	111,492	109,962
Cashflow/(Deficit)	666	(7,543)	(2,778)	(9,425)

June 2025 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	16,905	15,122	104,223	103,783
Other Income	3,839	4,739	25,235	16,615
Total Income	20,744	19,861	129,458	120,398
Total Expenses	21,554	20,619	133,046	130,581
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(810)	(758)	(3,588)	(10,183)







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RaiseRight – Gift Cards

RAISERIGHT ORDERS ARE DUE SUNDAY, AUUST 3RD

We will contact you when your order is in!

It's back to school time already! There are gift cards available for all of your back to school needs. Remember to pick up a gas or grocery card for those of you that have children going off to college. Remember we have a limited supply of certain gift cards available on hand for purchase.

We also still have a few Kwik Trip Car Wash cards available for purchase. The price per card is \$40 – good for 5 Ultimate Car Washes.

Thank you to **Lisa Smith & Leanne Monroe** for managing the program and placing the orders. Thank you also to **Margaret Yoder & Sandra Golliher** for their help with sales on Sunday mornings.





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Food Pantry

Food Pantry Update...

During the month of May we served 87 families. 159 adults and 122 children were served. 13 families were new to our pantry. In June we served 88 families. 167 adults and 124 children were served. 11 families were new to our pantry.

We have pretty much gone through all of the food that was collected from the Letter Carrier food drive held in May. We are back to having to purchase some of the items that are unavailable through our resource center. During the month of August, we are asking for **Pasta Sauce, Mac & Cheese and Cereal.** If you see any of these items on sale please pick them up and bring them to church. You can place any of your purchases in the black cart in the lower narthex.



Thank you to our volunteers for your continued support of our pantry. Thank you to Henry Caron, Ray Hitz, Gail Hable, Sandy Folske, Sherry Peppler, Carol Wiechman, Deb Kraemer, Lisa Smith, Kim Winter, Meg Hable, Mike Winter, Rick Peppler, Peter Smith, Dan Monroe, Jody Schaick and Jim Schaick.

Thank you to **Red's Piggly Wiggly, Jay Koepke and Festival Foods, Craig Geiger and 4Imprint and Silver Creek Meats** for your continued support of our pantry.

We can always use more help in the pantry. With our additional shift added, Wednesday's between 3-5pm, we could use some help answering the phones from 3:00pm until 4:30pm. If this is something you think you would like to try, please give us a call. We could also use help answering the phones between 8:00am and 9:30am on Friday mornings. If you can only work one day here or there, that would be helpful. We can put you on a rotation. Please prayerfully consider helping us in the pantry.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED TO HELP SORT THE FOOD WE RECEIVE FROM THIS FOOD DRIVE



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Thank you

To my dear "family" & friends at Emmanuel -

I have to say that the last couple of months have been a bit crazy for me in the "health department"! Please know, that as I write this, I am still SO full of thanks and gratitude for all of your thoughts, prayers, cards, and well wishes! I truly believe that without your positive energy flowing in my direction, the healing process would have taken a lot longer! Thank you!!!

And what a crazy way to lead up to my 50th Anniversary Celebration!!! And again, please know how grateful I am, and honored, and humbled, and blessed, to have been able to serve you all of these years!!! Looking back, I can't begin to imagine my life any other way! Looking forward, may we all continue to praise our God together with the sounds of music!!!

From the bottom of my heart – thank you for "putting up" with me all of these years!!!









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Thank you to Pastor Andi, Debbie Kraemer, Kim Winter, Rene Rogers, Holly Norkofski and Asher Norkofski for volunteering to help at our Culver's Fundraiser held on Monday, May 19th. We raised \$436.00 at this fundraiser! Thank you to everyone who attended!

Our fundraiser that was held at **Qdoba Mexican Eats** on Monday, April 7th brought in \$242.77. We would like to thank everyone for coming out and supporting this event! It's always a great time to join in fellowship!

Thank you to Craig Geiger and 4Imprint for providing the banner and frisbees that we will be using at the parade. We have the banner displayed in the lower narthex. Come and check it out!



Thank you to Leanne Bloedow and Leanne Monroe for freshening up the floral arrangements in the bathrooms. They are beautiful!

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who made purchases for the Back to School Fair. With your generosity we were able to help children go back to school with some new clothes!

Thank you to **Leanne Bloedow** for planting and maintaining the flowers in the outdoor planters.

The outdoor flowers have been sponsored by: In honor of Pastor Andi's parents, Joe & LaVerne Wolf. In loving memory of Nancy Wolf by her friend.

If you would like to make a donation to offset the cost of the outdoor flowers as well as the altar flowers, you may do so at any time. If you donate to the outdoor flowers, your donation will be listed in the Lamplighter. If you choose to donate toward the altar flowers, we would list that donation in the bulletin for the Sunday that you have requested. Please put your donation in the offering and label it "altar flowers" or "outdoor flowers" and who it is in honor or memory of. Thank you!





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- Thank you to JIM SCHAICK for maintaining the trees and lawn around the church. Thank you also for painting around the sign.
- Thank you to **CRAIG GEIGER, JODY SCHAICK, CORY SCHULTZ, LISA SMITH, KIM WINTER, ZACH WOLF, SAM UELMEN & LEANNE MONROE** for your help running the projector/live streaming our worship services.
- Thank you to **JULIE BARTHELS, QUINN BURSACK, DEB KRAEMER, PETER SMITH, LINDA STOWE & LEANNE MONROE** for doing the scripture readings during worship.
- Thank you to **CAROL WIECHMAN, LEANNE MONROE, RENE ROGERS & KIM WINTER** for helping with the extra cleaning projects around the building.
- Thank you to **LEANNE BLOEDOW** for maintaining the outdoor flower pots.
- Thank you, Ray!
- Thank you to GAIL HABLE for maintaining the headsets for the hearing loops.
- Thank you to **ANN STARK** for providing the activity bags for the children.
- Thank you to **DENNIS & KAREN CHAPIN, RON GOLLIHER, MARY DINKINS, VALERIA BASLER & MARILYN MORRISON** for the setting up and cleaning up for coffee hour every Sunday.
- Thank you to CORY SCHULTZ for updating the coffee hour tv and Facebook page.
- · Thank you to LISA SMITH for updating the website.





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JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT NOON IN THE LOWER NARTHEX

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 Church Council Meeting | 6:30pm

Sunday, August 31, 2025Loose coin offering benefitting our Sunday School Mission Project







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Hello families!

I am excited to introduce myself as our church's new Sunday School Superintendent. We have been working to implement some fun and exciting additions to our program including: monthly take home crafts, monthly newsletter in the lamplighter, devotionals at Sunday School and other fun ideas that are still in the works. Our overall theme this year will be, "you are a piece of God's plan" and in September our devotionals will focus on, "God loves you to the core". I am so excited to learn more about you all and encourage anyone (even adults!) to be on the lookout for "All about me" sheets that will be available at church to complete and return to be displayed in the common areas so we can all learn a little bit more about each other. Let's have a great year and I look forward to seeing you on September 14th for rally day!



If you have any interest in volunteering any amount of time to the Sunday School program, please do not hesitate to contact me! If you are looking to donate items, the Sunday School will be in need of *gallon size bags* for our take home crafts, we will be starting!

Emily Reyes 920.420.2296 sunday.school@emmanueloshkosh.org

2025/26 SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS
WITH RALLY DAY SUNDAY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH AT 9:00AM WORSHIP





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Memorial & Honorarium

JUNE MEMORIAL & ENDOWMENT REPORT

In loving memory of RON GORCHELS

A gift to the **Memorial Fund** by:

Ruth Denow

Margaret Yoder

Ron & Sandy Golliher

Mike & Suzanne Stadtmueller

Butch & Linda Penzenstadtmueller

Tammy & Becky Penzenstadtmueller

Jamie, Dowane, Evelyn, Baxter, Alex & Michael Taylor

Jill Decker & Pete J. Nitz





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

President's Report: Mary's recognition on 6/29/25 update--Rene shared the plaque (it looks wonderful) discussed reception downstairs with a cake (Deb), fruit tray and cheese/sausage tray (Andi and Lori). A brick will be ordered. The council will participate in presenting the monetary gift, the plaque and a brick.

KT Carwash Card update--still have some available.

Culver's Fundraiser Update--\$425 was raised. It is always a great fundraiser.

Leanne and Pastor shared that they thought we need to do a better job of letting people know when the office will be closed.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were accepted after a few corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed May financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of (\$7543.61) with a negative YTD of (\$9425.21.) Majority of expenses for the month were Pastor's Health and Pension, Fed & SS Payroll Taxes, WPS-Gas and Electric. Treasurer's report accepted as printed.

Pastor's Report: General: I have put together a document to share with the folks interested in Visitation Ministry. I am wondering about the value of going through our membership rolls. I have spoken very casually to Mary and Lori about how things might look when they retire. There will be major shifts in both those areas. June 1 we had Sr. High Youth group meeting. There will not be a July meeting. June 12 I am meeting with Emily Reyes about our Sunday School. June 15 is Father's Day. Baskets of chocolates will be set out. July 15 is our next Memorial and Endowment meeting. July 25 I will be out of town. July 27 is the installation service for Sandra Crase at St. Paul's UCC.

Deacon's Report: More wine has been purchased.

Trustee's Report: Weed and lawn treatment has been done. The weeds in the parking lot will be an ongoing battle. Spider and bug spray has been done. Jim has plans for the labyrinth area. Plenty of funds for the crosses in the labyrinth. Tom is looking into a lift for doing the tuck pointing at a cost of about \$1000 a week.





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Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2025

Continued

Old Business: Children's Parade—Emily Reyes has a plan for a craft along the theme of Lilo and Stitch. Volunteers would be needed for various tasks and various amounts of time from 10:00-3:00. Council agreed to fund prizes for the event. EAA Parking—parking rate will be \$20. Discussed banners for parking and the children's parade. Craig will look into it.

Good & Welfare: Meg asked about waxing the floor by the food pantry. Discussed how to make that happen.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is on August 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.





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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.



Do you have a concern you would like offered up in prayer? You can enter your request on our website at emmanueloshkosh.org. You can also call the church office at 920-235-8340 any weekday morning.



Are you having a procedure or surgery in the near future? Please contact the church office (920-235-8340) and let us know. Pastor Andi would like to make sure she is there for you and your family. If you mention it on a Sunday morning, she might forget. Due to HIPAA the hospital is not allowed to call and let us know if you are a patient or not. Thank you for your help!



As pre-worship time gets increasingly hectic, a reminder that if you have a prayer concern that is very important for you to share, please write it down and give it to Pastor Andi at least 10 minutes before worship begins, or place it on the pulpit. Thank you!



WE STILL HAVE KWIK TRIP CAR WASH CARDS AVAILABLE The price of each car wash card is \$40. This is good for 5 ultimate car washes. Pick up your card today! Your car will be happy!!





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Ronan Charles Mackenzie DesJarlais was baptized on Sunday, May 25th. Ronan is the son of Alexander and Morgan DesJarlais. May God continue to bless Ronan and his family.



We are always looking for volunteers in various areas in the church. The following are several places where we could use your help. If you would like to know more about any particular position, please feel free to reach out to the church office and we will connect you with the right person to help you out!

LITURGISTS – Do you thrive at public speaking! This is the place for you. We could use your help reading the scripture lessons during worship. Pick a Sunday and try it out! You can sign up on our website.

PROJECTION & LIVE STREAMING – We can always use more help with running the projector and live streaming during worship. Not tech savvy? We have wonderful volunteers who will walk you through the process as well as work with

you until you are comfortable on your own. You can check it out any Sunday morning or Thursday evening and make your decision. You can sign up on our website.

USHERING – We have a number of volunteers who are ushering on a regular basis so we usually have the first three Sunday's of the month covered. We could use more people to help with the other Sundays that are available. You can either call the church office or sign up on our website. We also need Ushers for the special services throughout the year.

FOOD PANTRY TELEPHONE ANSWERING – We do have a need for help answering the phones on Friday mornings or on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons. If this is something that interests you, please let us know. The time commitment is generally 1½ to 2 hours.

CLEANING – We do have a custodian working during the week, however, there are extra jobs that need to be done on a biweekly, quarterly or monthly basis. If this is something you would be interested in, please check out our website for what needs to be done.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH AT 6:00PM

Pastor Andi will be reaching out to the Confirmation families shortly, in regards to meeting after worship sometime in August to discuss the new school year.





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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

Rene Rogers Dan Rogers

Debra Kraemer Earl Dorst

Linda Stowe Laurie Dorst

Craig Geiger Noah Wilson

Tom Stark Jim Schaick

Memorial/Endowment Committee: Pastoral Relations Committee:

Jeff Stark Ann Stark Sandra Golliher Kay Lund

Deb Bartel Sherri Annis Julie Barthels Lori Potratz

Sandy Golliher Margaret Yoder Faith Lueck

Emily Reyes

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





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Click **HERE** for our online calendar.

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Additional Resources

We'd love to hear from you!
Click here to give us your feedback.

Visit us on social media.





