

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.



WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025 at 7:00PM

A S H WEDNESDAY

LENTEN BOOK STUDY Beginning March 4 at Noon (6 Tuesdays during Lent)

The Book Study will replace our weekly Lenten Worship Services



Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Pastor Andi's Message

This time of the year is oftentimes a bit weird for me. I love Christmas, so December is filled with anticipation and then celebration. But then January seems to last about 100 days. February is so cold. And I feel just a little...meh. I am longing for spring and that means I am not appreciating this present moment. I feel, among other things, a little sluggish. Now before you jump to give me advice—I agree. I should probably eat less sugar and more vegetables, drink more water, exercise more, and make sure to get plenty of rest. All those things—yes. But what I think I really need, is...and I can't believe I am even thinking this...Lent.

Sometimes life is so crazy and busy, and we need something to slow us down a bit, and Lent can do that. Sometimes life feels so out of control, and we need discipline and order, and Lent can do that. Sometimes we feel a disconnect and we need to reconnect, and Lent can do that. Sometimes we need a little bit of everything Lent has to offer—prayer, repentance, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent isn't always my favorite season of the year, but sometimes, now in particular, it feels like one of the most important seasons.

This year, as every year, I encourage you to intentionally journey though Lent. 40 days (and 6 Sundays) where we purposefully strengthen our faith through prayer, repentance, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer—intentional prayer calls us to quiet the noise of this world and sit a while with God. Just as intentionally setting time aside for our kids or spouse or friends strengthens that relationship, setting time aside to pray strengthens the sense of connection we have with our Creator. Pray intentionally.

Repentance—we are not perfect. But we are rather good at overlooking or justifying our own sin. The simple reality is that sin is sin. While we may be able to justify a particular act, that doesn't make it right. If my babies are starving, I can justify stealing food. But again, that doesn't make it right. Intentionally praying allows us to more objectively assess our lives, and more faithfully see our own sin. Repent openly and honestly.

Fasting—this is a more common way of observing Lent; giving something up. But friends, I am not a fan of making life more difficult just for the sake of making life more difficult. If you are going to use this time to give up something that is unhealthy that is one thing. Stop smoking, give up alcohol, adopt a healthy lifestyle. For some, the actual discipline of giving up some simple pleasure is a spiritual exercise. If that is not the case for you, I am going to encourage you to fast by giving up swearing, or being negative, or sharing gossip. Fast from toxic social media, or time-wasting games, or simply being too hard on yourself or your loved ones. Fast in a way that makes you healthier physically, emotionally, and/or spiritually.

Alms-giving—respond to the love and grace you find through prayer, repentance and fasting by being a blessing to others. Give of yourself. Spend intentionally. Make a financial commitment to a particular charity or ministry. Intentionally spend your time sending cards, making calls, or volunteering. Deliberately spend your time with kids or spouse or family. You have been blessed with some amazing gifts, and it is always the right time to use those gifts to bless your household and others.

All of these things; prayer, repentance, fasting, and almsgiving are exactly what my life needs. Let's journey through Lent together—and we will meet at the empty tomb!

Pastor Andi

pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org





Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Ushers for this month

March Usher Schedule

Sunday, March 2 - Ron & Sandra Golliher

Sunday, March 9 – Dan & Rene Rogers Sunday, March 16 – Brad & Liz Schultz

Sunday, March 23 - Volunteers Needed

Sunday, March 30 - Volunteers Needed

We could always use more ushers. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 920-235-8340. Thank you!





<u>Ushers</u>

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Treasurer's Nook

The start to 2025 is off and we ended up with a positive cash flow of 15,346.

Thank you to all that participated in the Eaton pizza coupon sale, Vande Walle candy bar sale and the Raise Right program. If you have any questions regarding the scrip program stop at the desk before the service on Sunday morning or give our office a call.

Another way for someone to support us is through your regular giving, various fund raisers, giving of your time and talents and ongoing prayers.

January 2025 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	16,854	32,959	16,854	32,959
Other Income	3,839	1,829	3,839	1,829
Total Income	20,693	34,788	20,693	34,788
Total Expenses	22,710	19,443	22,710	19,443
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(2,017)	15,346	(2,017)	15,443

Rene Rogers
Rene Rogers
Treasurer





Ushers

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 GIFT CARD ORDERS ARE DUE ON SUNDAY, March 2, 2025

We will give you a call and let you know when your gift cards are available. This program generates income for Emmanuel. All you have to do is order a gift card!! For example, if you order a \$50 Kwik Trip card, Emmanuel earns 4% on each card. That's \$2.00 per \$50 card that Emmanuel receives just by having you order that card. There are so many cards available with a variety of percentages. Some cards go as high as 16%!



If you haven't taken part in the RaiseRight program, please consider doing so today.

It's very convenient. Order forms are located on the RaiseRight table in the lower narthex. Pick one up, fill it out, and return it by the first Sunday of the month. Your cards will be available later that week in the church office, or you can pick them up the following Sunday morning. You can also order cards online. If you have any questions, please reach out to Leanne Monroe or Lisa Smith and they will help you.

We also have a limited supply of cards on hand available for purchase on Sunday morning, or weekday mornings in the church office.

Thank you to **Leanne Monroe & Lisa Smith** for managing the program. Thank you to **Sandy Golliher & Margaret Yoder** for their help selling cards on Sunday morning. Thank you to everyone who already purchases cards and supports this program.



Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Thank you to everyone who brought in canned pasta meals during the month of February. During the month of January, we are asking for **Soup**. If you see soup on sale, please pick up some extra cans and bring them in for the food pantry.

During the month of January, we served 111 families. 19 families were new to our pantry. 226 adults, and 191 children were served. Thank you for your continued support!

An interesting fact about our food pantry for 2024. Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is one of our resource centers. We are able to obtain some free non-perishable items as well as purchasing items at a reduced cost. Through the food received we were able to provide 13,209 meals! 10,452 meals (79% of the total) were donated items. 2,757 meals (21% of the total) were items we purchased. Partnering with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is how we help fight hunger.

Thank you to **Henry Caron** for working with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. Henry checks the availability at Feeding America almost daily as the inventory changes frequently. Henry also shops for bargains on a weekly basis to help keep our shelves full of nutritional food items. We also receive food once a month from the government, however, we have noticed a decrease in the availability of that resource.







Ushers

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 to **Craig Geiger, Cory Schultz, Lisa Smith, Kim Winter, Leanne Monroe & Jody Schaick** for running the live streaming and projection system during worship.
- Thank you to Deb Kraemer, Candy McGinnis Stark and Linda Stowe for reading during worship.
- Thank you to **Leanne Monroe, Lisa Smith, Connie Whittaker, Rene Rogers & Kim Winter** for your help with cleaning around the building.
- Thank you to Henry Caron, Ray Hitz, Gail Hable, Meg Hable, Jody Schaick, Sandy Folske, Sherry Peppler, Rick Peppler,
 Mary Dinkins, Carol Weichman, Jim Schaick, Mike Winter and Dan Monroe for your help in the food pantry.
- Thank you to Jim Schaick for helping with snow removal and salting.
- Thank you to **Dennis & Karen Chapin, Mary Dinkins, Val Basler and Marilyn Morrison** for picking up the donuts, making coffee and cleaning up for coffee hour. We appreciate all that you do so we are able to join in fellowship on Sunday morning.
- 🔹 Thank you Ray! 😊
- Thank you to Ann Stark for providing the children's activity bags.
- Thank you to **Jim Schaick** for painting the women's bathroom.

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!





Coming Up...

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 At 7:00pm

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Tuesday March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8 at Noon The Message of Jesus by Adam Hamilton Sign-up sheet is on the RaiseRight table in the lower narthex

CHIME CHOIR & CHANCEL CHOIR

Wednesdays - Chime 5:30pm & Chancel 6:30pm

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Wednesdays at 6:00pm

* No Class on March 26, 2025

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

CHURCH COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

NOISY COLLECTION Benefitting our Sunday school Mission Project







Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Church Council

2025 Annual Meeting Minutes February 9, 2025

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M. by Leanne Monroe.
 - A headcount of 42 members present.
- Pastor Andi offered the opening prayer to start the meeting.

General Meeting

- Adoption of Agenda
 - o A motion was made by Cory Schultz to accept the agenda as printed, seconded by Ann Stark. Motion carried.
- 2024 Minutes
 - o A motion was made by Gerry Keuler to accept the 2024 annual minutes as printed, seconded by Earl Dorst. Motion carried.
- Recognition of Church Council
 - Leanne recognized retiring members from the 2024 council:
 - Kim Winter retires from the treasurer position after 6 years.
 - Leanne recognized council members who have transitioned positions:
 - Rene Rogers has transferred to the open treasurer position from deacon.
 - Leanne recognized new members joining the council in 2025:
 - Linda Stowe joins the council as a deacon.

Reports

- Non-Financial Reports
- Leanne asked if there were any questions regarding the following reports: President's, Pastor's, Technology Committee,
 Other Non-Financial Report. No questions or concerns were brought up.
 - Motion made by Rene Rogers to accept the non financial reports as printed, seconded by Dan Rogers. Motion carried.
- Treasurer's Report
 - Leanne asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report. No questions or concerns were brought up.
 - Motion made by Lisa Keuler to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed, seconded by Earl Dorst. Motion carried.





Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Church Council

2025 Annual Meeting Minutes February 9, 2025 Continued

- Memorial and Endowment Report
 - Leanne asked if there were any questions regarding the Memorial and Endowment Report.
 - Gerry said that there was a typo in the endowment allocation in the report, under "Local Church Mission(s)" the "YMCA Scholarship Fund" should be \$500, not \$540.
 - Motion made by Kay Lund to accept the Memorial and Endowment Report as corrected, seconded by Karen Chapin. Motion carried.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

- The proposed endowment fund disbursement, with the corrections made by Gerry, was reviewed.
 - Motion made by Rene Rogers to accept the corrected fund disbursement, seconded by Sandy Golliher. Motion carried.
- The M&E Committee had multiple fund allocations that hadn't been touched in 4+ years. They wanted to dissolve these specific funds to be added to the undesignated fund, pursuant with the M&E Constitution Part 2, Section 6. Those funds were:
 - o Carpet (\$10), Table (\$610), Sunday School (\$620), Choir Fund (\$2060), and the UCC/Emmanuel Seminary School (\$7027.80)
 - Motion to accept the dissolution as proposed by the M&E Committee was made by Jim Schaick, seconded by Al Schaick.
 Motion carried.
- Recognizing Gerry Keuler as retiring from the M&E treasurer, being succeeded by Jeff Stark.
- A motion was made by Laurie Dorst to approve Sherri Annis onto the Memorial and Endowment Committee, seconded by Cory Schultz. Motion carried.
- Leanne brought forth the approval of the 2025 Proposed budget. No questions or concerns were brought forth.
 - Motion to accept the 2025 proposed budget was made by Jeff Stark, seconded by Bev Edwards. Motion carried.

Good & Welfare

Nothing to report.

Adjournment

- Motion made by Val Basler to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Cory Schultz. Motion carried.
- Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by: Zach Wolf





Ushers

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 Highlights

February 11, 2025

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

President's Report: Pizza Coupon Update—sold 164 coupons \$498 profit. Candy Bar Update--\$500 profit. M/E Minutes Distributed—FYI

Secretary's Report: January minutes were accepted as printed. Annual Meeting Minutes were also presented. After some corrections, those were accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed January financial reports. We had a positive cash flow of \$15,346.14. Alliant Energy stock was down -\$520 this month, with a fair market value of \$117,760.00. Major expenses for the month were Employee Pension and Health Insurance, OCWM, payroll taxes and WPS. Also of note were checks for organ tuning and our OneLicense music license. Treasurer's Report was accepted as printed.

Pastor's Report:

General: I am most certainly out of my groove. The visitation Ministry that was explored in October has yet to move forward. The folks that attended the initial meeting were Bruce and Quinn Bursack, Karen Chapin, Laurie Dorst, Sandy Golliher, Leanne Monroe, Connie Whittaker and Kim Winter. I think this is a good group and I will reach out to them in the coming days. I am requesting vacation for April 21-27. I have had a few people inquire about membership. I will be looking at having a new member Sunday.

Last Month: I attended my monthly Clergy Group and Communities of Practice. I was able to have coffee with Julie Eklund, pastor at First Congregational. I attended Jen Czarnota's Installation at Calvary Lutheran Church. Jen has served a few UCC churches and is in the Thursday Clergy Support Group.

This Month: February 6 began the Thursday Evening worship services. We had a pretty good turnout. February 23 at 3:00 is Julie Ekland's Installation service at FCC. All are welcome.



United Church of Christ



Ushers

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 Highlights

February 11, 2025

Pastor's Report: Continued

For the Future: March 4 starts our book study. We will be reading <u>The Message of Jesus</u> by Adam Hamilton. We will meet for 6 Tuesdays at noon. March 5 is Ash Wednesday. We will have a 7:00 service with Imposition of Ashes and Communion. There will not be weekly Lenten Services. March 9 I have a double Baptism of Owen Butzen, son of Mack and Melissa Butzen, and Ruby Ruegsegger, daughter of Ryan and Krysta

Ruegsegger. I have invited Julie Ruegsegger, pastor at Neillsville UCC, and grandmother of Ruby, to help officiate.

Vice President's Report: Key log updated.

Deacon's Report: An update on materials in the sacristy.

Trustee's Report: Scott from Luebke inquired about the roof. Craig will let him know where we are and keep in touch. Leanne pointed out that the downstairs Ladies bathroom and the ramp walls as priorities for painting.

Old Business: Phone System Replacement—new system is almost completed. Firewall has made it challenging.

New Business: Building Use Request—101A Algoma Club AA. They have 10 meetings and are looking for a new home. We have some questions. Pastor will reach out to them. Some discussion about finding someone or a service to do the cleaning. Council and congregation is encouraged to do some brainstorming. 2025 Fundraiser ideas-Culver's, Pizza Ranch, Qdoba, Perkins, Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards. Looking to order more candy bars for later in the year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is on March 11, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.





Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Miscellaneous

Grief Share -- Immanuel Lutheran Church (Fellowship Hall) 338 N. Eagle Street, Oshkosh

13-consecutive week Bible-based program offering in-person support and tools for anyone 19 or older that has lost a loved one. Participants need not be associated with any church to attend and seek relief. First Sessions is Monday, March 10 from 6pm to 7:30pm There is NO charge. Register at GriefShare.org Questions? Contact Ann Gosdeck 920-509-7656 or Jim Daubert 920-685-6592



One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the glove. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Please use the envelope enclosed in this Lamplighter for your donation. We will be collecting donations to OGHS during the month of March. To receive proper credit to your account, please put your name on the envelope. Thank you!

VandeWalle Candy Bar Update...

All of the 600 candy bars have been sold!! Thank you to everyone who purchased the candy bars. We received a profit of \$500 from this fundraiser.

Eaton's Pizza Coupon Update...

Thank you to everyone who purchased an Eaton's Pizza Coupon. We sold 174 pizza coupons, giving us a profit of \$528. Thank you to Leanne Monroe for organizing this sale. Thank you also to Margaret Yoder and Sandy Golliher for their help selling the coupons.





Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Miscellaneous



KWIK TRIP CAR WASH CARDS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GIFT CARD TABLE DURING MARCH

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!!

LENTEN SELF DENIAL FOLDERS

For those of you interested in filling a Lenten Self Denial folder during Lent, you can find them in the upper narthex. You can choose to put a quarter in each slot, or a \$20.00 bill in the folder (the amount of the full folder). Please don't forget to place your name on the outside of the folder so you can receive proper credit to your account.



Emmanuel's Night out at Qdoba Mexican Eats – 1990 Menard Dr. – Oshkosh Monday, April 7, 2025 from 4:00pm until 8:00pm



Emmanuel's Night Out at Culver's on Westowne Ave - Oshkosh

Monday, May 19, 2025 from 5:00pm until 7:00pm 10% of your order will go towards Emmanuel. Volunteers are needed to help with this event. If you are interested, please contact the church office. Thank you!

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!

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.

United Church of Christ



<u>Ushers</u>

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Miscellaneous

EASTER MEMORIAL & HONORARIUMS

We are once again offering the option of ordering your choice of Easter flowers. Either an Easter Lily or Tulip Plant is being offered. If you don't want to purchase a flower, a donation can be made to Emmanuel's General Fund.

DEADLINE FOR EASTER FLOWERS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

<u>DEADLINE FOR EMMANUEL DONATIONS IS SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH</u>

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

IN MEMORY OF	
IN HONOR OF	
GIVEN BY	
EASTER LILY (\$11.00)	HOW MANY
TULIP PLANT (\$11.00)	HOW MANY
DONATION TO GENERAL FUND	
AMOUNT DUE \$	





<u>Ushers</u>

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Miscellaneous

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.

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

Please include your name:
Number of bricks you would like to purchase
Amount Due





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 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.





Calendar

Click **HERE** for our online calendar.

A Note From Pastor

<u>Ushers</u>

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top





<u>Ushers</u>

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

Sunday School

Memorials & Honorarium

Church Council

Miscellaneous

Calendar

Back to Top

Additional Resources

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

Visit us on social media.





