

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.







Ushers

Treasurer's Nook

RaiseRight

Food Pantry

Thank you!

Coming up...

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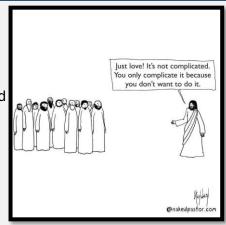
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Pastor Andi's Message

September 2025

I saved that drawing months and months ago. Seriously, whenever we look at the teachings of Jesus, they aren't all that difficult. Somehow, we have made 'complicating' Jesus an art. We put qualifies on his commands, just as the lawyer did when he asked, "And who is my neighbor?" We all know how that turned out for him. Love. It's not complicated.

Am I the only one who has ever been in the midst of a heated 'discussion' with someone (perhaps one of your children) who has done this? Somewhere along the line you begin to realize that they DO understand what you are saying. However, they are actively trying to make it more complicated, more difficult, more ridiculous, simply because they don't want to admit that what they did was wrong!



Yeah, we do that.

Jesus says to go feed the hungry. And we ask, 'But what if we feel like they should have the resources to feed themselves?'

Jesus says visit the sick and those in prison. And we ask, 'But what if they are there because of their own bad choices?'

Jesus tells us to love, and we complicate it. Not because we really don't understand, but because we don't want to do it; and we don't want to acknowledge that not doing it is sinning. And for the record, doing hurtful things in the name of our faith, because we think it is what is best for them—that's not loving someone.

It's not complicated.

Pastor Andi

pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org





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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!

SEPTEMBER USHER SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 7th – Ron & Sandy Golliher Sunday, September 14th – Dan & Rene Rogers Sunday, September 21st – Brad & Liz Schultz Sunday, September 28th – *Volunteers Needed*

Would you like to be an Usher? Please sign up online at Get Involved on our website, emmanueloshkosh.org.







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Treasurer's Nook

September 2025

July cash flow is a positive for the month \$11,725. With a year-to-date positive cash flow of \$1,542.

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. Also, a Thank you to Jeff & Mary Ann Bartels for allowing us to park cars as our big fund raiser for the year. 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.

July 2025 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	16,908	12,407	121,131	116,190
Other Income	3,839	30,437	29,074	47,052
Total Income	20,747	42,844	150,205	163,241
Total Expenses	23,492	31,119	156,538	161,700
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(2,745)	11,725	(6,333)	1,542

Rene Rogers
Rene Rogers
Treasurer





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RaiseRight – Gift Cards

RaiseRight orders are due on Sunday, September 7th





Need any last-minute school supplies? Pick up a gift card! Your college student could always use a grocery card or gas card. You can order those as well! Please remember we do have a limited supply of gift cards available weekday mornings in the church office or on sale Sunday mornings in the lower narthex.

Thank you to **Leanne Monroe & Lisa Smith** for managing the program. Thank you to **Margaret Yoder & Sandy Golliher** for selling the gift cards on Sunday mornings.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the RaiseRight program. Just by purchasing a gift card, you help bring in funds for Emmanuel!





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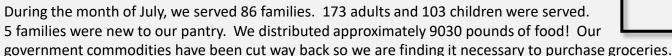
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Food Pantry

Food Pantry Update...

We could always use more help in the pantry. With our additional shift added, the 1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 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.





Henry is always looking for bargains to purchase what is needed to fill the bags with non-perishable food items. Our resource center as well as TFAP don't always have the items that we need. Could you please help us out by purchasing **Cereal, Rice & Mac & Cheese** when you are at the grocery store? These donations would really help fill the bags!

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

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

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





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Children's Day Parade August 2nd 2025

Thank you to **Emily Simons** for organizing Emmanuel's participation in this event. Thank you also to **Leanne Monroe and Connie Whittaker** for helping with the games at Emmanuel's table in the park. Thank you also to **Craig Geiger & 4Imprint** for donating the frisbees.







The following volunteers worked the EAA parking:

Dan Rogers, Rene Rogers, Jim Schaick, Jody Schaick, Bruce Bursack, Quinn Bursack, Kim Winter, Earl Dorst, Rick Schumann, Leanne Monroe, Dan Monroe, John Moon, Deb Kraemer, Henry Caron, Emily Reyes, Rigo Reyes, Carolyn Rukas, Tom Stark, Ron Golliher, Sandy Golliher & Pastor Andi.

Thank you to these wonderful volunteers for giving of their time the week of EAA. Thank you to **Ron & Sandy Golliher** for organizing the parking.

A **HUGE** thank you to **Jeff & MaryAnn Bartels** for letting us use their property for parking. We made a profit of \$19,754!!!!





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Thank you

- ✓ Thank you to Jody Schaick, Brooklyn Schultz, Cory Schultz, Lisa Smith, Noah Wilson and Kim Winter for running the projector during worship and Live Streaming the worship service.
- ✓ Thank you to **Julie Barthels, Quinn Bursack, Deb Kramer, Candy McGinnis, Leanne Monroe and Linda Stowe** for doing the readings during worship.
- ✓ Thank you to **Rene Rogers, Leanne Monroe and Kim Winter** for cleaning the windows in the lower narthex and in the classrooms.
- ✓ Thank you Ray! 😊
- ✓ Thank you to **Jim Schaick** for mowing and trimming around the church.
- ✓ Thank you to **Ann Stark** for supplying the kid's activity bags.
- ✓ Thank you to Gail Hable for maintaining the headsets for the hearing loop.
- ✓ Thank you to **Cory Schultz & Lisa Smith** for keeping our website and Facebook page up to date, and to **Cory** for updating the coffee hour tv.

Thank you to **Connie Whittaker**, for coordinating our Lay Visitation Ministry Group. Thank you also to **Bruce & Quinn Bursack**, **Karen Chapin**, **Earl & Laurie Dorst**, **Sandy Golliher Leanne Monroe**, **Carolyn Rukas and Kim Winter** for visiting the members of our congregation who are unable to come to church. Having ongoing church connections is so important to those members in this situation. We invite anyone who would be interested in being a part of the visitation group to contact Connie Whittaker to see what it is all about! **The Lay Visitation Ministry Group will meet again on Sunday, November 16th following worship**.





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

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Church Council Meeting | 6:30pm

Wednesday Evenings - Starting September 10, 2025

Chime Choir | 5:30pm Confirmation | 6:00pm - No Confirmation on September 17, 2025

Chancel Choir | 6:30pm

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Rally Day - Sunday School | 10:00am

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Bible Study | 12:00pm

Sunday, September 28, 2025

Sunday School | 10:00am







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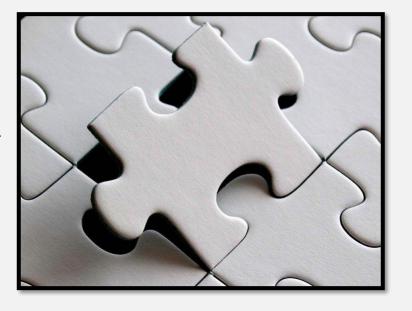
Happy September!

The air is turning crisp, the leaves are beginning to change, and apples are popping up everywhere—from orchards to pies to lunchboxes. This is such a beautiful time of year to see God's creation in action, reminding us of his goodness in every season.

Just like an apple has layers—its skin, sweet fruit, and the seeds at its center—God loves every part of who you are. He knows what's on the outside, sees what's inside your heart, and treasures you completely.

Family Idea for the Month:

Go apple picking together! While you're choosing apples, talk about how God made each one unique—just like He made each of us special. Remind your children: *God loves you to your core!* Watch for our take home craft for this month which will follow this theme!



We're looking forward to a wonderful month of learning, laughter, and growing in God's love. We will also continue to explore our theme of "You are a piece of God's Plan" and what makes each of us unique!

Emily Simons

Sunday School Superintendent sunday.school@emmanueloshkosh.org





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Church Council Meeting Highlights August 12, 2025

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

President's Report: Fundraiser updates--EAA Parking raised \$19754 EUCC.

Children's Parade—had a few people walk the parade and a number of people visit our table. Those there felt it went well. Thanks to Emily Reyes for organizing our participation and Craig for getting the banner and frisbees.

Secretary's Report: June minutes were accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed June financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of (\$757.74) with a negative YTD of (\$10,182.95.) the majority of expenses for the month were Pastor's Health and Pension, Fed & SS Payroll Taxes, and WPS-Gas and Electric. Reviewed July financial reports. We had a positive cash flow of \$11,724.81 with a positive YTD of \$1541.86. Majority of expenses for the month were Pastor's Health and Pension, GuideOne Insurance, Fed & SS Payroll Taxes, WPS-Gas and Electric and Bartels' portion of the parking revenue. The June and July Treasurer's Reports were accepted as printed.

Pastor's Report: I officiated at Mark Neitzel's funeral on June 20 and Patricia Hoehne's funeral June 21. Mary's anniversary celebration on June 29 went well. Lori did a lot of work to ensure its success. July 15 I started a monthly Bible Study. August 3 we had a High School Youth Group and discussed the birthday cakes given out by the food pantry. August 7 I attended my regular clergy group meeting. The Lay Visitation Ministry Team kicked off August 10. Connie Whittaker is the coordinator, and I believe that will greatly increase its success. August 12 I co-officiated at Ellen Bruce's funeral. In the next few weeks, I will be meeting with Emily Reyes about Rally Day, which is September 14, and we will start confirmation class September 10.

I would like to take vacation August 20-27. Tom Fritz has agreed to provide pulpit supply.





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Church Council Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2025 Continued

Deacon's Report: Discussion about why we light the sanctuary candles the way we do.

Trustee's Report: Craig will spray for weeds and spiders. Tom will deal with the ceiling fan that wobbles.

Tuckpointing and the Labyrinth crosses are still being discussed. The seven windows in the lower narthex need to be replaced. Council voted to place them on the Wish List. Discussed painting and anchoring the car bumpers in parking lot. Leanne inquired about where the snow blower was. Jim informed her it was in the paint and tool room in the basement. Since it is battery operated, it is safe to be stored inside.

New Business: Herald ad will not be renewed. Ann Stark wanted to donate a number of books and council voted to accept that donation. Looking ahead to possible fundraisers—we hope Pizza Ranch will be in Jan or Feb 2026. We will try to get a date for Red Robin in late September. We will order candy bars soon.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is on September 9, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.



CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER

We will be voting for the 2026/27 Council in October. Each year there are 6 positions on the ballot. This year we are fortunate to have 5 of the 6 positions returning for another 2-year term. **We have an open position as a deacon**. The deacons are responsible for preparing and serving communion as well as changing the paraments. You would also be asked to attend the Council meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July) at 6:30pm. We ask that you prayerfully consider serving Emmanuel as a deacon on the Council. If you have any questions about serving on the Council, we invite you to talk to any one of the existing Council members. Thank you!





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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!!



thelamplighter

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20% OF FOOD SALES*
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FUNDRAISER DETAILS

600 S. Koeller St, Oshkosh, WI 54902 September 22, 2025*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at redrobin.com/order and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- Add your meal items and check out.
- Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours.

Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.



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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.

CHANCEL & CHIME CHOIR REHEARSALS ARE STARTING AGAIN!

Summer has once again flown by way to fast! Here we are looking at September, and what do we see....Chime & Chancel Choir resuming rehearsals. Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 10th. Chime Choir at 5:30 and Chancel Choir at 6:30. We are encouraging those of you who have interest in sharing your musical talents in our worship services, to come and join us! To be a part of the Chime Choir, all you need to do is count! Don't be shy! Reach out to Mary Dinkins (Chancel Choir) or Lisa Keuler (Chime Choir) prior to the 10th, and let them know if you will be returning or joining either chime choir or chancel choir. Join one or both of the choirs today!





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School will be back in session on Tuesday, September 2nd. Please pray for the students, teachers, bus drivers, administrative staff and all school employees for a safe and healthy school year.

Please remember to slow down in the school zones so we can keep everyone safe!

We are happy to announce that we will be selling VandeWalles candy bars again in time for Christmas. Sale dates will be posted in upcoming bulletins and Lamplighters!

We would like to welcome Reverend Doctor Tom Fritz to Emmanuel!

This is a little bit about Tom: I am an ordained minister in the UCC, having just marked the 50th anniversary of my ordination. I retired from Settled ministry in 2015 and have done three Interim ministries since then. I retired for the fourth time in December of 2024. I have a Doctor of Ministry degree in stewardship and I enjoy teaching people and congregations the joys of generous living.

I am the father of two children: a daughter Kelly and a son Jason. I also have two granddaughters: Skylar and Quinn, and two step-granddaughters: Paige and Taylor. I am presently widowed and divorced but will soon be engaged to Sharon, a wonderful woman from Michigan.

I am avid bowler—it is my second religion. I also enjoy fishing, hunting, target shooting, and reloading my own ammunition. I am also a DIY guy, having built or remodeled every house I have ever owned. I am finishing up my current remodeling effort and will soon sell the house and move to Michigan.

GRIEFSHARE FALL 2025

WHAT: GRIEFSHARE (in-person support) 14 week Bible based program. WHEN: Sept. 8 – Dec. 8 6:00pm to 7:30pm please arrive 15 min. early WHERE: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 338 N. Eagle Street Oshkosh PARKING: Please park in our Porter Street Parking Lot (behind Church)

ENTER: Backdoor across from white shed.

WHO: Anyone 19 years old and older, who has lost a loved one. Open to the public.

REGISTRATION: Please go to griefshare.org. All materials at no charge.

Questions? Contact Ann Gosdeck, 920-509-7656/gosdecka@yahoo.com or Jim Daubert, 920-685-6592/jdaubert91@gmailcom.





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Please use the order blank. Have your orders in by October 19th for Pick up on October 26th

You can also call the church office, 920.235.8340, or email the church office at office@emmaueloshkosh.org to place your order.

\$8.00 / quart	Name:	
Chili W/O Beans	How Many:	
Chili W/ Beans	How Many:	
Chicken Dumpling	How Many:	
French Onion	How Many:	
Loaded Baked Potato	How Many:	
Amount Due		





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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.





