

A New Journey Lutheran Parish

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Ness Lutheran Church
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Sundal Lutheran Church
Gary Lutheran Church
PO Box 96
Gary, MN 56545

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SEPTEMBER 2022



- ***CONFIRMATION: Confirmation classes will start in September and will be held at Immanuel in Bejou. If you haven't already done so, please contact Katie DeMarais if you have a student (7th grade, 8th grade or older) who will be participating in Confirmation.***
- ***Pastor Keith's office hours for September are as follows:***
 - *Tuesdays at Gary...10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*
 - *Wednesdays at Our Savior's...10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*
 - *Thursdays at Immanuel...10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*
 - *Visits at a church office or one's home can be scheduled for other dates and times.*
- ***There will be only one Labor Day weekend Worship service on Sunday, September 4, and that will be hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome!***

PRAYER LIST: Diane Altringer, Alroy Aune, Brady Bauer, Shawn Bendickson, Susan Bendickson, Ron Dahl, Sara (Tommervik) Friesen, Alex Gullingsrud, Becky Halland, David Johnson, Ann (Wastweet) Kukowski, Donna Lisburg, Marla (Johnson) Miller, Marilyn Natwick, Larry Ose, Jr., April Ostenaar, Nick Ostenaar, Franklyn Preisler, Stacey Prestegord, Bruce Solberg, Gerald Swanson, Jean Uhler, and LouAnn (Gorder) Vandeberg

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEITH ZEH...

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

As A New Journey Lutheran Parish, we are off and running together the race our Lord Jesus has set before us. We are not alone in our running, for we do so being cheered along the way by those who have gone before, and with the encouragement of one another, as the Apostle Paul spoke when writing these words to the Christians in Thessalonica (Thessalonians 5:11): “Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.”

Fred Rogers had something to add when he posted this: “There was a story going around about the Special Olympics. For the hundred-yard dash, there were nine contestants, all of them so-called physically or mentally disabled. All nine of them assembled at the starting line and, at the sound of the gun, they took off. But one little boy didn’t get very far. He stumbled and fell and hurt his knee and began to cry. The other eight children heard the boy crying. They slowed down, turned around, and ran back to him – every one of them ran back to him. The little boy got up, and he and the rest of the runners linked their arms together and joyfully walked to the finish line.”

“They all finished the race at the same time. And when they did, everyone in the stadium stood up and clapped and whistled and cheered for a long time. And you know why? Because deep down we know that what matters in life is more than winning for ourselves. What really matters is helping others to win, too, even if it means slowing down and changing course now and then.”

Let’s link our arms, leaving no one behind, and run this race together. Even if it means slowing down to make sure we’re letting God have God’s way with us and changing course now and then as the Holy Spirit guides us in following our Lord Jesus.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for enduring the cross. Thank You for finishing the race for us. Help us to follow the path you laid out for us as we look to You. May we walk hand in hand with You, relishing the journey because we have sweet fellowship with You, understanding that it doesn’t depend on us, but on You. And You already accomplished it all. Amen!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Keith Zeh

A MESSAGE FROM KATIE DEMARAIS, SAM...

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’” (Revelation 21:5)

September traditionally marks the start of “back to” times. Back to school. Back to Sunday School. Back to harvest. Back to more routine after the summer relaxation. Back to cooler weather and a more isolating season. This September feels like even more of a “back to” time as we are finally returning to a more ‘normal’ time after the upending of Covid. We are back to in-person Worship, back to Sunday Schools meeting, and back to a more routine schedule of Worship and fellowship opportunities. I want to challenge us, however, not to make “back to” our goal destination.

We have a unique opportunity this autumn as we begin programming to make it the best we can. That will mean mindfully dreaming new ways of doing things, as well as thoughtfully returning to beloved traditions. We can blessedly let go of challenges, even those we hung on to as “we always did things this way” since we had a break from doing things that way. We can take what we have learned over the last two-plus years and create even better ways of being together, of worshipping, of teaching our kiddos and youth. We can also challenge ourselves not to return “back to” who we were, but to a new self.

God assures us that in our baptism, we are made new. Every time that we confess and receive the assurance of forgiveness, we are washed clean and made new. Just as we would not dare to wish to return back to our pre-baptized sinful self, we should not want to return back to our pre-Covid selves again either. What we have witnessed, learned, experienced, and more during the last two years (for better or for worse) has changed us. I hope it has changed you for the better.

I hope that you have realized more of what you hold dear (being in person with family and friends, worshipping with your church family, the freedom of being able to come and go as you please). If you are not to that point yet, I hope you spend some time in prayer and contemplation about what you may have learned and experienced, and ask God to help you come to a place of peace, releasing whatever anxiety or anger you may have about the world and the Church in the last few years. That way God can make you new, ready to get “back to” the mission of the Church with a glad and hopeful heart. I, for one, cannot wait to get “back to” sharing God’s love and promise of salvation, together with you.

Your servant in Christ,
Katie DeMarais, SAM

News from A NEW JOURNEY LUTHERAN PARISH...

- The Call Committee met for the first time on August 10 for an orientation. Sue Steinmetz was selected to serve as the Committee Chair and a survey was drafted for congregational members to respond. Pastor Rebel Hurd, our Northwestern Minnesota Synod's Director for Evangelical Mission, joined the meeting via speakerphone. The Call Committee meets with Pastor Rebel again on Thursday, September 8, to begin preparations for entering the interview phase of the call process.
- Our Parish has been awarded A Go For It Grant of \$5,000. The check just arrived funded by the generosity of "Over and Above Donors" throughout our Northwestern Minnesota Synod. The Go For It grant application was submitted several months ago by our Parish Practicing Resurrection Team for the purpose of supporting efforts to build up each congregation through their reaching out together in their shared mission field.
- Wednesday Night Worship will continue the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Immanuel (in conjunction with Confirmation Class, but is open to ALL!). Other worship opportunities can be scheduled by contacting Rachel.
- Sunday School will start at Gary and at Our Savior's on September 11 and will meet every Sunday at both locations. Sunday School will start at Immanuel on September 18 and meet on the first and third Sundays of each month.
- Confirmation Classes will be held every other Wednesday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Immanuel. On the first Wednesday of the month, they will have a two-hour class. On the third Wednesday of the month, they will complete lessons from 6-7:00 p.m. and then attend Worship from 7-8:00 p.m. Both hours are a part of Confirmation Class. If all students attend, there will be 10 students this year. We need one mentor for each student, to begin meeting with students later this fall and throughout the school year. **Let Katie know if you'd like to volunteer (one session a month)!**

- “Pancakes and Possibilities” Men’s Breakfast will be held at 7:00 a.m., on Thursday, Sept. 15th at Bendickson Café in Bejou, to imagine and brainstorm future possibilities for men’s ministry – Pastor Keith’s Treat 😊
- Website and social media have now been fully converted under the new Parish name. Please like/follow our Parish Facebook page, individual congregation’s FB, and our Parish Instagram. Our website has an up-to-date calendar easily accessible. Bookmark it or put it on the homepage of your phone or computer to easily check the calendar!
- Mail to A New Journey Lutheran Parish should be addressed to PO Box 308, McIntosh, MN 56556 and our New Parish email address is: anewjourneyparish@gmail.com. Note: Any offering or correspondence to an individual congregation can continue to be sent to that respective address.

Minutes - A New Journey Parish Council Meeting at Immanuel August 24, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Nelson at 8:00 p.m. Members present - Pastor Keith, Becky Olson, Harry Aanden, Karen Carlsrud, SAM Katie, Myron Stene, Anita Roy, Kristi Skeie. Guests - Jill Nelson, Rachel Roggenbuck. Opening prayer by Mike Nelson.

M/S/P - Becky/Myron - to approve the July 13, 2022, minutes.

M/S/P - Becky/Harry - to approve treasurer's report as of July 31, 2022.

Pastor Keith reviewed the staff report per the handout passed out.

Old Business - Katie reported we received \$5,000 from the Go For It Grant we submitted. Honorariums to some of the performers at the Revival service will be sent out from the fund.

Update on New Parish - - discussion on getting necessary papers completed. The date of the new parish is November 1, 2022. M/S/P - Becky/Myron - Jill will contact IRS and proceed with getting necessary papers completed. M/S/P - Becky/Kristi -

the McIntosh church address will be address used as official address. M/S/P - Kristi/Becky - the lawyer will be Elroy Hanson. The address for bills will be Jill's address in Gary.

New Business - Pastor Keith stated a couple of suggestions passed out for review prior to forming bylaws/constitution for the new parish.

Rachel reported the communication via texts is working well - still need people to sign up.

Contract services for Sundal - Harry and Myron stated they would like one service a month and possible pastoral assistance for visiting. It was thought the cost would be \$200-\$300 - more to follow.

Katie reported on the survey the call committee drafted and about 29 surveys received so far. The call committee meets August 31 again.

Pastor Keith reported the need for people to fill out the pastoral budget worksheet prior to the September 8 meeting with the Synod on the call process. The budget meeting was set for Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. at Immanuel.

Theology Ministry Conference - Katie and Rachel will attend - Katie's registration covered by parish budget. M/S/P - Becky/Harry to pay Rachel's registration fee.

Next Parish Council meeting will be September 7 at Bejou. 7 p.m the members meet to work on the budget worksheet followed by the Parish Council meeting at 8 p.m.

Closing prayer by Rachel. M/S/P - Harry/Myron to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Karen Carlsrud, Secretary Parish Council

News from Gary Parish...

- Sunday School will start on a weekly basis at Gary Lutheran on Sunday, September 11, at 9:30 a.m. All pre-kindergarten through 6th grade children are welcome. To sign up your children, to volunteer to help, or if you have questions, please contact Teresa Werpy at 701-361-6290.
- Condolences to Alden Anderson and the family & friends of Pastor Gloria Anderson who passed away in August.
- Congratulations to Jenny (Hanson) and Rick Lien on their marriage at Sundal on August 13.
- Be sure to check out the “spiritual information table” at Gary Lutheran. Please read and enjoy.

Altar Guild, Usher/Greeters and Janitor Assignments

- Gary Lutheran Church Ushers/Greeters (NOTE: Please plug in lamp prior to service & unplug after services.):
 - Sept. 4: David & Audrey Hanson
 - Sept. 11 & 18: Roger & Kim Knutson
 - Sept. 5 & Oct. 2: Gary & Kathy TeHennepe
- Gary Lutheran Altar Guild for September: Jill Nelson
- Sundal Lutheran Church Ushers/Janitors/Altar Guild for September:
 - Myron & Karen Stene
- Ness Lutheran Church: None

News from Our Savior's...

- Our Savior's Fall Dinner will be held Sunday, September 18, 2022, from 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Watch upcoming bulletins for further details.
- Our Savior's Sunday School will have their first day on September 11th at 9:30-10:15 a.m. It will be a Rally Day with fun activities! We plan to have it every Sunday in September and October. Letters will be going out to all families this week. If anyone is interested in joining Sunday School, please call Our Savior's Church to get signed up at 218-563-3495.
- Quilting will start on Wednesday, September 7, and will meet every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.
- Our Savior's Council will meet on Wednesday, September 14, at 7:00 p.m.

News from Immanuel...

Summary of July 20, 2022, Immanuel Council Meeting Minutes

Council members present: Duane Gunderson, Peggy Gunderson, Joyce Bendickson, Gloria Steinbrenner, Terry McCollum, Cindy Large, and Jon Large. Others in attendance: Katie DeMarais and Rachel Roggenbuck.

Treasurer's report was provided.

Katie reported Confirmation will start Sept. 21 at Immanuel and will be held the first and third Wednesdays each month. The third Wednesdays will be followed by worship service. There are five Confirmation students from Immanuel.

Katie and Rachel will attend a Theology for Ministry seminar at Mahnomon September 18-20.

Old business included:

- The parking lot paving, and the curbing & rocks around church are complete & looks good.
- We are waiting for lutefisk pricing before deciding on plans for a lutefisk supper.

New business included:

- The Fall Festival will be held the first Sunday in October, with worship starting at 10:00 a.m. that day.
- Duane gave a Call Committee report.

Additional Immanuel Info:

- Ladies' Aid will hold their monthly supper on Wednesday, September 21, serving from 4-6:30 p.m. and the meal cost is \$5. Servers are Andrea Bendickson, Jean Uhlir and Erica Holmvik. (Note: Confirmation at 6 p.m., worship service at 7 p.m. & Immanuel Council meeting at 8 p.m.)
- **Sunday School:** Starting September 18, Sunday School at Immanuel will be held the first and third Sunday each month at 9:30 a.m. for children through 6th grade. Please contact Rachel or Bridget Roggenbuck if you have kids to enroll. (Note: Sunday School will be held at 9:00 a.m. on October 2 due to 10 a.m. worship service followed by 11 a.m. Fall Festival at Immanuel.)

- Condolences to Sylvia McCollum and family as they mourn the sudden death of her sister Janet on August 14.
- Congratulations to Jenny & Rick Welk on their marriage at Immanuel on August 12. Jenny is the daughter of Dean and Peggy Gunderson.

Church Ladies' Night Out



All ladies are welcome! Bring a friend!
Each month we will gather at a local
restaurant for food, fellowship,
and fun.

Tuesday, September 13

6:30pm

Moran's Supperclub, Winger

Men's Breakfast "Pancakes & Possibilities"

All men are welcome!

We will imagine & brainstorm future
possibilities for Men's Ministry.

Pastor Keith's treat!

Thursday, Sept. 15 ~ 7:00am

Bendickson's General Store

& Cafe, Bejou



Youth Group



Open to all 6-12 Graders.
All are welcome. Bring a friend!
Come make a tie-blanket
(to keep or to donate), have snacks,
& hang out with church friends.

Sunday, September 18

5:00-7:00pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church



Family Playdate

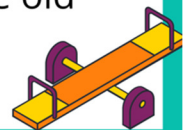


All are welcome to attend a
monthly family playdate!
As the kids play, the adults can chat,
have some snacks, and/or relax.

Thursday, September 22

Come anytime between **4-6pm**

At the playground of the old
Gary School



Ministers:
Interim Pastor:

**Synodically
Authorized
Minister (SAM)**

**Worship Life
Coordinator:**

Parish Secretary:
**Gary Parish
Secretary:**
**Our Savior's
Secretary:**
Parish Website:

Members of the Congregations
Pastor Keith Zeh (218) 790-1764 or
pastorkeithzeh@gmail.com

Katie DeMarais (218) 820-8287 or
demarais.katie@gmail.com

Rachel Roggenbuck (701) 741-0976 or
athomerachel@gmail.com

Sue Gunderson (218) 280-8678 or immanuel@gvtel.com

Julie Gevik (218) 280-3356 or garyrindaloffice@gmail.com

Anita Roy (218) 849-3791 or oursaviors@gvtel.com
anewjourneyparish.org

SEPTEMBER 2022 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WORSHIP *Communion	IMMANUEL (Bejou)	OUR SAVIOR'S (McIntosh)	GARY	NESS	SUNDAL
Sunday, Sept. 4*	9:30 am - Worship (KD)				
Sunday, Sept. 11	8:30 am- Worship (KZ)	9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship (KZ)	9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am-Worship (KD)		8:30 am-Worship (KD)
Sunday, Sept. 18*	8:30 am – Worship (KZ) 9:30 am-Sunday School	9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship (KZ)	9:30 am-Sunday School	8:30 am – Worship (KD)	10:30 am – Worship (KD)
Wed., Sept. 21	6:00 pm-Confirmation Class 7:00 pm-Worship (KD)				
Sunday, Sept. 25	8:30 am-Worship (Pulpit Supply)	9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship (Pulpit Supply)	8:30 am-Worship (KZ) 9:30 am-Sunday School	10:30 am-Worship (KZ)	
Sunday, Oct. 2	9:00 am-Sunday School 10:00 am-Worship	9:30 am-Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship	9:30 am-Sunday School		8:30 am-Worship

