

**A New Journey Lutheran Parish**

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

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**OCTOBER 2023**



## “Good Gossip”

We don't share the GOOD things we do as much as we share gossip, so each month we lift up some good ministry being done throughout the Parish.

### **Youth Group**

Every month, our Parish offers a Youth Group opportunity. Youth Group is for teens in 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade, and they can invite friends who are not a part of our congregations. We rotate locations at which we host events and offer both fun nights and service projects. In September, we had a very fun night with Jenna Radtke (whose family belongs to Immanuel), the co-founder of a board game company called Pops & Bejou Games. Jenna brought a few of her new board games for us to learn and play. Games, pizza, and laughs were 'cultivated!'

We are always looking for new opportunities for Youth Group, so if you have a fun business or hobby you'd like to share with the youth, let Katie know! If you have a service project opportunity, pass that along as well. For example, in October, Youth Group will help lead games at the Gary Community Halloween Carnival as a service project. Want to join us? ALL are welcome!

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### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

*Jessie Beckman, Shawn Bendickson, Julius Dahl, Ron Dahl, Denise Halland, David & Diane Hamre, Cindy (Wastweet) Kiester, Ann (Wastweet) Kukowski, Kathy Lampton, Violet Lee, Donna Lisburg, Julia (Pantaleo) Madoll, Gwen Meyer, Marla (Johnson) Miller, Marilyn Natwick, Todd Scheff, Anita Slater, Gina Tiokasin and Elijah (grandson of Donna Lisburg of Gary). Condolences to the family and friends of Pauline Leines (Bejou), who passed away September 1 (celebration of life was held September 23 at Immanuel).*

## ***MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RENÉ L. MEHLBERG...***

Dear Beloved Children of God:

Fall is in the air even as we soak in the lingering warm days. The school year is well on its way with MEA weekend around the corner. Faith formation in its various forms (confirmation, Sunday School, family afternoons) has or will soon start. Some familiar rhythms return, even as the seasons change.

At the August parish council meeting, Rachel Roggenbuck's covenant as a SAM was approved! It was officially signed by Bishop Bill Tesch on September 11 with a commissioning soon to follow. The people and communities of ANJLP are fortunate and very blessed to have this ministry team who work with and care for the people of God throughout our vast mission field.

As written last month, Rachel will focus on caring ministry by visiting people and connecting with them when life events happen. If you or someone you know would like a visit or a call, contact Rachel. This work is in addition to her responsibilities of Worship Life Coordinator. She will continue to preach as needed and will soon be able to preside at communion and baptisms, Lutherans' two sacraments. Rachel's responsibilities are about 13 hours a week.

Katie's SAM work continues focusing on Children, Youth, and Family by leading Confirmation and Youth Group. She provided leadership with VBS and is a support for Sunday School/Faith Formation at the individual churches. She also led the parish to adopt a Children and Youth Safety Policy, which passed in September. She regularly leads worship, having one Sunday off a month. Katie's responsibilities are about 20 hours a week.

As your full-time pastor/mission developer, I work with and lead the parish staff team to ensure God's work is being done. This includes a vast array of responsibilities: leading worship; being out in the communities attending events and learning, meeting, and talking with people; working with each church and their leadership to reach their goals, dreaming about and trying different ways to connect with God's beloved people, and so much more. I am blessed to be working with this team and each of you.

I ask for your prayers and patience, love and grace as we all continue to live into this holy, messy work the Holy Spirit is up to in each church, our communities, and the parish. We need one another in so many ways as we lean in and continue sharing God's love and promises to all.

Prayers and blessings for you all!

Pastor René

## ***A MESSAGE FROM KATIE DEMARAIS, SAM...***

Harvest greetings to you all! As it is now October, I would like to share with you one of my favorite Autumn devotionals, the pumpkin prayer. I invite you to spend some time reading about how you are just like a pumpkin, look up these verses in your Bible and see what verses surround these ones, and spend time in prayer thanking God for creating you and pumpkins!

### ***How being Christian is like being a Pumpkin:***



#### **1) We are hand selected**

God hand selects us! We are chosen! Very much like in the verse John 15:16, where Jesus is giving the Vine and the Branches illustration, reads:

*"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit- fruit that will last- and so that whatever you ask in my name the father will give you." – John 15:16*

#### **2) We are washed clean**

We all know how dirty pumpkins can appear at times! In order to clean them, of course we have to wash them! The blood of Jesus washes away our sins, the things that make us as humans unclean. A pumpkin has an inside and an outside. Not only does God wash us clean from the outside, he removes our sin, and in doing that we are washed clean and made new from the inside out. We are not captive to sin, or the shame that comes with it, because through Christ we are made new!

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!" – 2 Corinthians 5:17*

God carefully removes our seeds of doubt, hate, greed. Instead of holding onto these unfruitful seeds, God replaces them with seeds of faith, hope and love.

#### **3) He gives us a smile**

God brings such a joy to our lives, and our smiles are living proof of this.

*"My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you- I whom you have delivered." – Psalm 71:23*

#### **4) He shines through us**

When Christ dwells in us, we shine through to the people around us. Through the darkness of this occasion, we can reflect His light to glorify our Father. One of my favorite Bible verses is found in Matthew 5:16, reading:

*"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." – Matthew 5:16*

*Anonymous Author*

## ***A MESSAGE FROM RACHEL ROGGENBUCK, SAM...***

Two things have happened since the last newsletter! First, fall has arrived and so have all of the Fall church dinners. So many have fundraising dinners this time of year. What a wonderful time to get out, support our neighbors and each other, as well as eat good food!! It is so wonderful to watch as our own churches come together to provide meals for others in the community. There are many exciting activities on our horizon - some repeats from last year (think caroling and game night) and new activities that made the list long after it was feasible to make a plan (hockey game). I am so excited about all of the opportunities we will have to spend time together, grow together, and share the love of the one who loved us first. Look for information in upcoming newsletters, as well as bulletins and text notifications. If you would like to help plan these events, please contact me, Pastor René, or Katie.

Another thing happened. I officially started serving as your second SAM. What does this mean? I will continue to shepherd the Worship Life of our parish but also lead worship when needed. In addition to these newer responsibilities, I will do some caring ministry through visits. I want to visit You! In your home, at a cafe or coffee shop, at ball games, or even at the church. I want to get to know you better, support you in your life, and share space and time with you.

This is an exciting time!! I can't wait to share it with you! Keep up the good works you are ALL doing!

Peace,

Rachel, SAM

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### ***Minutes - A New Journey Parish Council Meeting***

(7:30 p.m. on August 28, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran, Bejou, MN)

Council members present: Jim Steinmetz, Karen Carlsrud, Stacey Knudson, Wanda Stordahl, Peggy Hanson, Teresa Werpy, and Becky Olson (for Mary Preisler). Others in attendance: Pastor René Mehlberg, Katie DeMarais, Rachel Roggenbuck, and Sue Gunderson. Also in attendance for a portion of the meeting to discuss Bible Camp were Shelley and Lavonne Sannes.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Steinmetz followed by devotions led by Pastor René.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes were distributed. Motion was made by Becky, seconded by Teresa and carried, to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held July 10, 2023.

**Treasurer's report:** In Jill Nelson's absence, Katie distributed and reviewed the financial reports. A motion was made by Becky, seconded by Peggy and carried, to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Pastor René and Jimmy will work on the Portico Benefit annual enrollment for 2024 budget purposes. It was noted that we received 501c3 federal exemption under ELCA and are still waiting on our parish Minnesota sales tax exemption certificate.

**New business:**

Shelley Sannes' daughter was one of the students ANJLP paid for to attend Bible Camp this summer. Shelley voiced safety concerns she and her daughter had while being at Bible Camp; and felt the Council should be aware of their concerns when considering sponsoring future students to attend the Camp. Parish Staff will continue to work to offer safe and meaningful opportunities for faith formation, including Bible Camp, and will be taking this information under advisement as opportunities are presented to families in the future.

A question was raised whether or not the Parish should send letters to area schools reminding them that religious events often occur on Wednesday evenings and that they should respect that day when scheduling school activities. Katie indicated she has not run into much problem with conflicts and that she has been able to work around school activities, so no action will be taken at this time.

**Staff report:**

Katie indicated that she is working on an expanded Confirmation class schedule and will meet with students and their parents/guardians on September 17. Let her know if there are any students in 7th grade or older that should be invited. She expects there will be 10+ students in Confirmation this year. Katie is also working on a Safety & Abuse Prevention Policy for the Parish and handed out a draft to council members to review prior to a discussion at the next council meeting.

Rachel reported on the good turnout at the Family Fun Event at Immanuel on August 27. Ideas for a 2024 Revival are being worked on, as well as inviting a gospel singer from Branson to join us for an event next year. A worship team meeting will be held sometime in September or early October. Rachel administers the text-em-all program used primarily for reminders and prayer requests. Parish staff are working to maximize this resource to include sub-groups such as parish council, confirmation families, etc.

Pastor René presented the Licensure Approving Synod Authorized Minister for Rachel and indicated that hiring Rachel for the remainder of 2023 as a SAM is within the 2023 budget. A motion was made by Teresa, seconded by Peggy and carried to approve hiring Rachel Roggenbuck for the remainder of 2023 and authorize the Licensure as presented.

**Old Business:**

Preliminary membership numbers (based on number of confirmands) for each congregation to be used for 2024 budgeting purposes were reported as follows.

September 30, 2023, is the deadline for final numbers to be reported at the October ANJLP council meeting.

- Ness 87 (last year 101)
- Gary 191 (last year 195)
- Immanuel 146 (last year 196)
- Our Savior's 105 (last year 162)

**Other business:**

Upcoming parish events include the meatball dinner at Our Savior's on September 17, and the Synod Road Trip at Our Savior's on September 21. Pastor René asked that everyone be considering when and where services should be held on Christmas Eve day (Sunday morning), Christmas Eve night, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve Day (Sunday).

It was mentioned that the Synod is having a Zoom training at 6:30 p.m. on September 11 that may be beneficial for treasurers of each of our congregations to attend at Immanuel as it may be helpful when preparing the 2024 budget. It may also be beneficial for those treasurers to stay for the ANJLP Council meeting which will follow the Zoom training.

The next ANJLP Council meeting was scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, seconded by Stacey and carried, to adjourn. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sue Gunderson, Parish Secretary

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***Minutes - A New Journey Parish Council Meeting***

(7:30 p.m. on September 11, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran, Bejou, MN)

Council members present: Jim Steinmetz, Karen Carlsrud, Stacey Knudson, Wanda Stordahl, Peggy Hanson, Teresa Werpy, and Mary Preisler. Others in attendance: Pastor René Mehlberg, Katie DeMarais, Rachel Roggenbuck, Sue Gunderson and Jill Nelson. Also in attendance for a portion of the meeting were Ness Lutheran members Mike Sather & Harry Kveno. Mike Hagy stayed for the entire meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Steinmetz followed by devotions led by Pastor René.

**Secretary's report:** Minutes were distributed. Motion was made by Wanda, seconded by Peggy and carried, to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held August 28, 2023.

**Treasurer's report:** Jill distributed and reviewed the financial reports, which also included the following: payroll taxes will now be deposited monthly rather than biweekly; the Portico benefit annual enrollment is due October 13 and being worked on; the bulk mailing permit expires in April 2024 so we will need to reapply under the new parish name and decide what post office we want to use for mailing our newsletters; Rachel's hours as of September 1, 2023, will now be paid at the SAM rate; mileage for employees should be reported from what is determined to be their base location; Jill will work with Katie to determine the timing of her mentor's pay; and we are still waiting for our MN sales tax exemption certificate. A motion was made by Peggy, seconded by Wanda and carried, to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

On behalf of Ness Lutheran, Harry Kveno reported on how their Trust Fund (money received as part of an estate gift) is set up and how that impacts them financially.

**Staff report:**

Katie indicated letters have gone out to confirmands and that she plans to meet with parents/guardians and students on Sunday, September 17, prior to the Youth Group gathering at Immanuel. Confirmation classes will start in October and will be held the first Sunday and Wednesday, and third Wednesday of each month at Immanuel.

Rachel indicated that a Worship Team meeting has been scheduled for September 28 at Immanuel. Also, October 29 is the fifth Sunday of the month so there will be a joint worship at Gary followed by lunch. She will be attending the Synod Fall Theological Retreat at Detroit Lakes Fair Hills on September 17-19 with Pastor René. She looks forward to providing caring ministry so if there is anyone who needs her to visit them, please let her know.

Pastor René reported that the Bishop signed off on Rachel's application to be a SAM, so Rachel will start those added duties to her schedule. New housing options are being considered for Pastor René as the owner of the rental needs to move in by November 1. She wishes to remain close to the center of the parish.

**Old Business:**

There were no changes suggested to the draft Safety & Abuse Prevention Policy Katie presented at the last Parish council meeting. A motion was made by Mary, seconded by Wanda, to approve the Parish Safety & Abuse Policy as presented. Background checks will be conducted per the policy. It was suggested that each individual congregation consider adopting and following the same type of policy.

Teresa reported that the Gary Lutheran Council discussed the issues that came up at our meeting last month concerning Bible Camp and recommending not sending youth to Pathways Bible Camp or provide financial support until concerns are addressed. They are looking into other Bible Camp options. Pastor René will work



with the concerned family to draft a letter to Pathways. She also spoke to the Board Chair of Pathways about our concerns; and she will talk to each Parish family who had kids go to Bible Camp this summer.

Pastor René led discussion on membership numbers and how we come together in faith and trust while being mindful of the financial resources each church has to contribute to the parish budget. Thank-you to each congregation for working on their membership list. After discussion it was decided for each church to come to the October Parish Council meeting with the following numbers: confirmands; those confirmed, have communed, and have given (financially or in-kind) within the last year; those confirmed and communed or given (financially or in-kind) within the last year; and households. It was also suggested that each council look at what they are currently paying toward the parish budget, and their ability in 2024 to pay the same, pay more, or need to pay less.

**New business:**

The 2024 budget is something all should be considering, as well as whether or not there are areas that can be eliminated or reduced. We will know more after the membership numbers are finalized.

The staff are working with each church council to come up with a worship schedule for the Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve holidays.

**Other business:**

The Council was reminded that the Synod Road Trip will be at Our Savior's on Thursday, September 21.

The next ANJLP Council meeting was scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 16, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran, Bejou. The meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sue Gunderson, Parish Secretary

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*News from Gary Lutheran...*

**September 10, 2023 Council Meeting**

The Gary Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on Sunday, September 10, 2023 following 10:30 worship. Present were Bonnie Werpy, Gene Werpy, Teresa Werpy, Peggy Hanson, Gene Hanson, Carrie Heisler, Pastor René Mehlberg, and guests Shelley Sannes and LaVonne Sannes.

Bonnie called the meeting to order. It was decided that we would do the new business first to let Shelley and LaVonne speak and then do the old business. Agenda was approved.

The secretary's report was read by Peggy. Carrie made a motion to accept, seconded by Gene Werpy and carried.

The treasurer's report showed an ending balance of \$29,476.69. Gene Werpy reported that he has a \$250 gift card from Thrivent to be used for expenses for the Harvest Dinner on November 19. Motion was made by Gene Hanson to approve the treasurer's report and seconded by Gene Werpy and carried.

### **New Business-**

Shelley Sannes talked about her daughter's experience at Bible camp. Her daughter along with other campers were very uncomfortable there. Pastor René said she would talk with the President of the board at Pathways. After much discussion Carrie made a motion that we recommend not going there, not giving Pathways money for now with a written letter with our concerns (by Shelley and Pastor René) and having Pastor René reach out to the board with our concerns. The motion was seconded by Teresa and carried.

### **Old Business-**

Second SAM position – Everything is going well. Still working out details of Rachel's responsibility with the Caring Ministry. Pastor René was wondering if we want to have a set time for church now that we have 2 SAMs. Carrie suggested we have Sunday School during church. She had heard from different parents with children that they would like that. We may have more parents willing to teach also. The suggestion was for church at 9:30 (1st choice) or 10:30 (2nd choice) with Sunday School during church. Pastor René said she would work with Katie and Rachel to see if this is possible. Gene Hanson made a motion that starting in October and for the rest of the year we have Sunday School during church and see how it works. The motion was seconded by Carrie and it was carried. Sunday School will remain at 9:30 in September.

Leaking Roof – Carrie talked to Byron Thronson about the leaky roof. He felt it was not caused by ice jam but by how the office is connected to the church.

Membership – As of today our membership is 185. 69 have communed. Gary's amount that they pay to the parish will go up substantially. Pastor René had copies of Gary church membership. A copy was given to each council member to contact members who have not been active.

Sound System – Put on hold.

Sunday School Printing – Posters will be made.

**Other business-** Pastor René thanked Bonnie, Gene Werpy and Brock Nelson for fixing the bell. Pastor René reported that VBS went well. She said that Katie has 11 students in confirmation as of now. If you know of anyone who would like to be in confirmation you should contact Katie. Pastor René also said that October 29<sup>th</sup> is a

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday so we would only have 1 church service and it will be hosted at Gary. 10 am worship with a possible potluck afterwards. There will be no Sunday School that day. Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year. It was decided that we would not have Sunday morning service. We would have our traditional Christmas Eve service that evening.

The next council meeting will be November 26<sup>th</sup>.

Carrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Gene Hanson and carried.

Minutes taken by Peggy Hanson.

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### **Altar Guild, Usher/Greeters and Janitor Assignments**

- Gary Lutheran Church Ushers/Greeters, including any midweek services in their timeframe. (NOTE: Please check to make sure the red Christ Candle gets extinguished after each service.):
  - Oct. 1: David & Audrey Hanson
  - Oct. 8-15: Jacob & Alise Liebl
  - Oct. 22-29: Roger & Kim Knutson
- Gary Lutheran Altar Guild for October: Kim Jenson, Bindy Thronson

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### ***News from Our Savior's...***

#### **September 10, 2023 Council Meeting**

Meeting was called to order by President Wanda Stordahl. Wanda led us in devotions. Council members present were Wanda Stordahl, Jane Aakhus, Kristi Skeie, Stacey Knudson, Tanya Hamre, and Cindy Ostenaar. Others in attendance were Anita Roy, Dave Stordahl, Katie DeMarais and Rachel Roggenbuck.

Stacey Knudson made a motion to accept the August meeting minutes and 2<sup>nd</sup> it by Kristi Skeie. Dave Stordahl gave the financial report. Jane Aakhus made a motion to accept the financial report and Cindy Ostenaar 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

#### **Old Business**

-Fall Dinner-Cindy and Marilyn have everything pretty much ready for it. Gordie is contacting the guys to help with it.

-Stacey gave an update on the Fall Festival and the plan for that. Stacey made a motion and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cindy to give any money we get from the free will donation part of the sale to the "Say Something Assembly."

## New Business

-St. Luke's Cemetery mowing was discussed as Larry has reported that there are lots of weeds up there so he's wondering if he can get approval to spray up there next spring. Motion by Jane and 2<sup>nd</sup> it by Kristi to give Larry the go ahead to spray for weeds at St. Luke's Cemetery.

-New options for offering envelopes were discussed and motion was made by Kristi and 2<sup>nd</sup> it by Kristi to order new ones from the option that Wanda presented on them. Anita will order them.

-Our next contemporary service will be on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Christmas Eve will be one service at 4:00 pm that day, no morning worship that day. New Year's Eve we will have regular worship at 10:30 a.m.

-Motion by Jane and 2<sup>nd</sup> it by Cindy to give Steve Aanenson 30% of the sale from the Fall Festival for all his work on it.

## Pastoral Report

Pastor René Mehlberg's report was given by Wanda Stordahl as Pastor René was unable to attend.

Motion made by Jane and 2<sup>nd</sup> it by Kristi to adjourn. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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## *News from Immanuel...*

### Summary of September 20, 2023, Immanuel Council Meeting

- Council members present: Jim Steinmetz, Duane Gunderson, Peggy Gunderson, Mary Nell Preisler, Cindy Large, Gloria Steinbrenner, Terry McCollum and Delane Schaumburg. Also present: Pastor René, Rachel Roggenbuck.
- Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were given and approved.
- A similar Safety & Abuse Prevention Policy adopted by the Parish Council was adopted and will be followed by Immanuel.
- Immanuel's updated membership list was reviewed and its impact on the 2024 parish budget was discussed.
- Highlights of the most recent parish council meeting were reviewed.
- Holiday worship schedules were discussed. Immanuel will have 8:30am worship on Christmas Day (no service at Immanuel on Christmas Eve day) and Immanuel will have 8:30am worship on New Year's Eve day.

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## Additional Immanuel Info:

- Ladies' Aid supper on Wednesday, October 18, serving from 4-6:30 p.m. Meal cost is a free will offering. Servers are Peggy Gunderson, Delane Schaumburg and Melissa Bendickson. (Note: Confirmation at 6 p.m., worship service at 7 p.m. & Immanuel Council meeting at 8 p.m.)

## IMMANUEL FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Serving: Variety of Hot Dishes & Salads, Beverage and Dessert**  
**Free Will Offering**  
**Bake Sale, Cake Walks, Fish Pond and Silent Auction**



### 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, October 12**

Come anytime between **4-6pm** At the playground of the old Gary School. (Bad weather location: Gary Lutheran)



### Wednesday Night Worship

Wednesday, October 18  
hosted at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bejou  
Ladies Aid Supper served from 4:00-6:30pm  
Confirmation Class 6pm  
Worship at 7pm

All are welcome to participate in Wednesday Night Worship:  
The Word proclaimed! Music sang!  
Fellowship shared!

## 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, October 24th**  
**6:30pm**  
**Peachy's Pub, Bejou**



## Youth Group Service Project @ the Halloween Carnival



Youth Group is open to all 6-12 Graders.  
All are welcome. Bring friends!

In October, we will serve our neighbors  
as we volunteer to lead games at the Gary  
Community Halloween Carnival. Following the  
Carnival, we will gather at Gary Lutheran to  
carve pumpkins and have treats.

**Sunday, October 29 ~ 3:00-5:30**  
**Gary American Legion, Gary 3-5pm**  
**Gary Lutheran Church 5-5:30pm**

### Other Area Community Events:

#### **First Lutheran Church, Mahanomen -- Chili & Baked Potato Dinner**

Wednesday, October 4; 5:00-6:30pm

All the Fixins and Dessert! Free Will Offering

#### **Women's Gathering at Faaberg Lutheran--Saturday, October 14**

Begins at 8:45am, the brunch is served at 9:15am, and the program begins at  
10:00am. Watch upcoming bulletins for more details.

<b>Ministers:</b>	<b>Members of the Congregations</b> Pastor René Mehlberg (218) 308-7898 <a href="mailto:pastor.rene.mehlberg@gmail.com">pastor.rene.mehlberg@gmail.com</a>
<b>Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM)</b>	Katie DeMarais (218) 820-8287 or <a href="mailto:demarais.katie@gmail.com">demarais.katie@gmail.com</a>
<b>SAM</b>	Rachel Roggenbuck (701) 741-0976 or <a href="mailto:athomerachel@gmail.com">athomerachel@gmail.com</a>
<b>ANJLP Secretary:</b>	Sue Gunderson (218) 280-8678 or <a href="mailto:immanuel@gvtel.com">immanuel@gvtel.com</a>
<b>Gary/Ness Sec.:</b>	Julie Gevik (218) 280-3356 or <a href="mailto:garyrindaloffice@gmail.com">garyrindaloffice@gmail.com</a>
<b>Our Savior's Secretary:</b>	Anita Roy (218) 849-3791 or <a href="mailto:oursaviors@gvtel.com">oursaviors@gvtel.com</a>
<b>Parish Website:</b>	<a href="http://anewjourneyparish.org">anewjourneyparish.org</a>

## **A New Journey Lutheran Parish - Our “Why”:**

- Sharing the hope we find in Christ and the roadmap for a happy and healthy life.

It is our goal, individually and collectively, to spread the love and promises of God to our neighbors, our communities, and our congregations.

We remember that God has already provided all we need to do what God needs us to do.

How has this been done?

- Regular worship
- Involvement in community events
- Community worship (Gary Days, Mahnommen County Fair)
- Ladies’ Night Out
- Various dinners welcoming the community to be part of
- Quilting
- VBS
- Caring for neighbors in need
- And much more
- And hopefully even more to come!

A New Journey Lutheran Parish came together in the last year in faith, trust, and love to see what God is up to in this place. Like any relationship, it isn’t always easy as it requires much work, especially in the vast mission field that we serve. We need one another to continue the faithful work that came before ANJLP even began. As we prepare for the end of year one and the start of year two, let’s consider the stories that live in this place. The stories of how your church or the parish has spread the love and promises of God? While also dreaming of the stories we’d like to tell so even more people experience God’s great love?

**OCTOBER 2023 WORSHIP SCHEDULE (\*\* denotes Holy Communion)**

<b>WORSHIP</b>	<b>IMMANUEL (Bejou)</b>	<b>OUR SAVIOR'S (McIntosh)</b>	<b>GARY</b>	<b>NESS</b>	<b>SUNDAL</b>
<b>Sunday, Oct. 1</b> (green)	10:00 am – Worship followed by Fall Festival	10:30 am – Worship**	8:30 am – Worship** 9:30 am – Sunday School & Confirmation		
<b>Sunday, Oct. 8</b> (green)	8:30 am – Worship**	10:30 am—Worship followed by Council Mtg	9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am—Worship	8:30 am – Worship	
<b>Sunday, Oct. 15</b> (green)	8:30 am – Worship**	10:30 am—Worship**	8:30 am – Worship** 9:30 am—Sunday School		10:30 am – Worship**
<b>Wed., Oct. 18</b> (green)	7:00 pm – Worship**				
<b>Sunday, Oct. 22</b> (green)	8:30 am – Worship	10:30 am – Worship	8:30 am-Worship 9:30 am – Sunday School	10:30 am – Worship**	
<b>Sunday, Oct. 29</b> <b>Reformation</b> <b>Sunday (red)</b>			10:00 am-Joint Worship** followed by Lunch		