



Immanuel News

The newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greeley, Colorado

January 2025

Beginnings and Endings

The month of January is named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and endings, doors, and transitions. Janus is often depicted with two faces, one looking forward and the other backward, to represent his ability to see both the past and the future. Janus presided over doors and gates, which is appropriate for the new year.

The new year, for many, is a time for reflection of the past year, and for some a time to make resolutions for the coming year. Our congregation is now in a time of transition with the end of the ministry of Pastor Monica, and the beginning of the journey toward the next chapter of our ministry.

On December 19, 2024, the Immanuel Council members and the Board of Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry (LECM) met with Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelabouni and Pastor Deb Abbott, one of the deans for the North Colorado Conference, to which our congregation belongs. Those attending shared our affirmations of Pastor Monica's two ministries in Greeley and Pastor Monica gave her reflections of each ministry.

Pastor Deb Abbott gave an overview of the North Colorado Conference, comprising of 10 congregations. She expressed support from the other pastors in the conference but also mentioned that a few other congregations in our conference are also in transition.

Immanuel and LECM have been assigned a transition coach – someone who will be our first point of contact during the transition and call process. As we move through these next weeks and months, the Council will keep the congregation informed along the way. If you have questions, please ask, but understand that there may not be an answer just yet. In the meantime, we ask for your prayers, patience and support.

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

I Thessalonians 5: 16-18

God's Blessings,
Immanuel Council members

WORSHIP



January 5—Epiphany of Our Lord
January 12—Baptism of Our Lord
January 19—Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 26—Third Sunday after Epiphany

Time of Transition

How will life at Immanuel be different during the Time of Transition?
Some things will be the same, some will be different.
Below is some initial information.

Sundays:

Sunday worship will be covered by supply pastors until such time as we are assigned an Interim Pastor.

Pastoral Care:

We have pastors on call in case of pastoral emergencies. If you or someone in your family are in need or in the hospital, please contact the church office or a council member and they will connect you with the pastor on call. The ASAP Prayer Team also continues to be a support for you. Prayer requests can be sent to the office or placed in the box on the table in the sanctuary.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Available

Congregational groups and individuals may apply for the remaining Thrivent Choice Dollars that were directed to our congregation in 2024.

The Council will be accepting applications starting now through **Sunday, March 2nd**. Requests can include, but are not limited to: education, youth/student activities, mission activities, religious worship, cash assistance, disaster assistance, repairs/maintenance, supplies, and equipment.

Applications may be picked up at the church office and in the narthex. Please mail or drop off completed applications to the church office by no later than March 2nd.

For questions, please contact Julie Elmquist at 970.371.2734 .

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

Annual Report Submissions



Please get your 2024 annual report submissions submitted by email in Word format to office@immunueelgreeley.org By Monday, January 6th. If you have questions, please contact Denise at 970.352.3003. Thanks!

Budget/Annual Meeting Forum **on January 5th, 9:30am in Fellowship Hall**



Immanuel's Congregational Council will be sponsoring coffee hour on Sunday, January 5th.

The congregation is invited to attend and bring questions they may want addressed at the annual meeting in January. A proposed budget will also be available for review.

ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

To all members of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church:

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 26, 2025, following the worship service. Agenda items include election of Congregation Council members, committee members, adoption of the 2025 budget and any other business that may be brought forth the day of the meeting.

YOUTH & FAITH FORMATION

FIRST SUNDAY YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, January 5, 2025

SCHEDULE:

9:00am – Snacks Together in Annex Youth Room

9:15am – 5th Grade & Younger (Youth Room)

9:15am – Middle School & High School
(Annex - Upstairs)

10:00am – Back Together for Fun & Games in Youth Room

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Sign up to help with Youth Group!

We need two (2) volunteers each month to sign up to help with the young group for First Sundays Youth Group, February through May. If you are available or have questions, please contact the office (970) 352-3003 or Julie Elmquist (970) 371-2734. Resources are available for lessons!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study meets at 9:15AM in the library with exploration of Pr. Dan Erlander's *Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe*.



GIVING & SERVICE

Free Little Pantry



Your help is needed to keep our “Free Little Pantry” stocked! Please bring **one** or **two** recently purchased, shelf-stable, sealed, non-perishable, food or nonfood item(s) that can withstand varying temperatures & place these items in the barn or in the overflow bin located in the Narthex.

**Let's help our neighbors in need & work together to
FILL THE BARN!**

LUTHERAN EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

Support Campus Ministry: Bring a Meal to Sunday Dinner Church

Support campus ministry and students in Greeley for the winter/spring semester by signing up to bring a meal for our Sunday evening Dinner Church gatherings. These meals are a weekly anchor in our community, and students look forward each week to eating together. Your help providing the food for these meals makes this time together possible. Thank you! Find more details and open dates on our Meal Train page:

<https://mealtrain.com/ynk9ey>. If you are able, please plan to eat with us!



PRAYER & CARE

Always Say A Prayer Team



If you have prayer concerns, please contact the Church Office at
(970) 352-3003.

Prayer request cards can be found at the back of the nave
along with a box to place your requests.

**All concerns will be kept confidential unless you choose
to add your name to the prayer list in the bulletin.**

Members of the Prayer Team

Roma Arithson Connie Deines
Sharrol Bernahl Diane Filipe
Janet Willis

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Memory Makers

Pack a lunch, gather your supplies, and let's enjoy quality time together working on scrapbooks, digital books, cards, & other paper projects.

Date: TBD in February

Hours: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Location: Immanuel Lutheran Church – 1865 14th Avenue, Greeley

Host: Amy Herold – A Creative Memories Independent Consultant

www.creativememories.com/user/amyherold

Need more details or have questions - contact me at herold_amy@hotmail.com
or 970.978.0870 (cell).

Hope to see you there!



CHURCH COUNCIL



Name	Phone	E-mail	Committee
Budde, Cindy	C: 970-371-6588	peteandcindyb@gmail.com	Secretary – Communications & Social Media
Elmquist, Julie	H: 970-330-6679 C: 970-371-2734	sjelmquist@msn.com	Vice President -Youth Team, Property
Herold, Amy	970-978-0870	herold_amy@hotmail.com	Youth Team
Larson, Lelyn	970-371-0307	larsonoff@gmail.com	President -Finance, Property

EFTF –Endowment Foundation Trust Fund

The Endowment Foundation Trust Fund (EFTF) uses interest earned on the donations in the trust fund to support special needs and work of the church that is not covered by the church budget. If you have a special need in mind, please submit a request for fund disbursement. The EFTF Committee considers requests quarterly. Please see an EFTF Committee member if you have questions or pick up a request form from the EFTF mailbox in the church office.

Committee members: Cindy Thompson, Jacqui Larson,
Janet Crespín, Janet Johnson

GIA Clothing Bank

Several Greeley-area churches are sponsors for and help operate the Greeley Interfaith Assn. Clothing Bank, located at 228 N. 9th Avenue in Greeley.

The hours open are 10:00 am—2:00 pm-Mondays, Tuesdays, some Wednesdays & Thursdays.

The Clothing Bank accepts gently used items of clothing and then sells them to the public at a reasonable cost. Proceeds of the sales cover operating expenses and then go toward community scholarships and grants.

Some Immanuel members have committed to being on duty on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month.

Donations can be dropped off at the Clothing Bank during the hours of operation.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact: Julie Elmquist, Katy Sickles or Cindy Thompson.



CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

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- ◆ **Pastor Monica presented and reviewed a list of Pastoral transitional notes to help with key church functions to the Council.**
- ◆ **Council met with the LECM Board, our Synod Bishop, and other local pastors to discuss the upcoming transition, and begin next steps.**
- ◆ **Council has a list of pastors to contact for Pulpit Supply after December 31st.**

**Join us for our next meeting on
Tuesday, January 14th @ 5:00 pm.**

Tied in Faith...

**Will meet on Tuesday, January 7,
Thursday, January 16, and
Saturday, January 25 at 9:00 am**



WELCA

Love and Priscilla/Ruth Circle
will not be meeting this month.

*Please call the church office, 352-3003, for additional
information*

January Birthdays

2	Maelie Olguin
3	Bob Morse
6	Patrick Alm
10	Julie Alm
	John Johnson
16	Toodie Iverson
17	Rodger Arithson
20	Julie Reimers
21	Arlin Sample




January Anniversaries

1	Jack & Ila Mae Larson
10	Elisabeth & Cody Peterson
29	Ron & Alice Richardson

If we have missed your
birthday or anniversary, please call the church office so that we
can update the records



2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Church Offices Closed	2	3	4
5 9:00 am – Youth Group 9:30 am-Budget/Annual Meeting Forum 10:30 am-Holy Communion	6 Common Sense Kleaning-Annex Annual Report Submissions Due	7 9:00 am—Tied in Faith	8	9	10	11
12 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion 11:30 am-Prayer Team	13 Common Sense Kleaning—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank	14 5:00 pm-Council Meeting	15	16 9:00 am—Tied in Faith	17	18
19 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion	20 Common Sense Kleaning-Annex	21	22	23	24	25 9:00 am—Tied in Faith
26 9:15 am-Bible Study 10:00 am- Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am-Holy Communion 11:30 am-Annual Meeting	27 Common Sense Kleaning—Church 9:30 am—2:00 pm—ILC at GIA Clothing Bank	28	29	30	31	

Thanks to our Volunteers!

January 2025

January 5:

Greeter: Julie Elmquist
Ushers: Ron & Cindy Thompson
Assisting Minister: Cindy Budde
Lector: Luke Larson, Jack Larson
Communion Setup: Cindy Thompson
Communion Ass't: Janet Johnson
Tellers: Marvin & Connie Deines

January 12:

Greeter: Julie Elmquist
Ushers: Matt & Molly Ward
Assisting Minister: Janet Willis
Lector: Molly Ward
Communion Setup: Molly Ward
Tellers: Vera Sylvester, Brenda Turnwall

January 19:

Greeter: Vera Sylvester
Ushers: John Johnson & Sally Stewart
Assisting Minister: Julie Elmquist
Lector: Janessa Padilla
Communion Setup: Sue Morse
Tellers: Linda Sample

January 26:

Greeter: Janet Willis
Ushers: Juan Cruz, Katy Sickles
Assisting Minister: Cindy Budde
Lector: Pete Budde
Communion Setup: Linda Cruz
Tellers: Janet Crespin

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Vacant
Secretary: Denise Pollard Stricker 970-352-3003
Office Hours: M —Th 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Offices closed on Fridays

Executive Council:

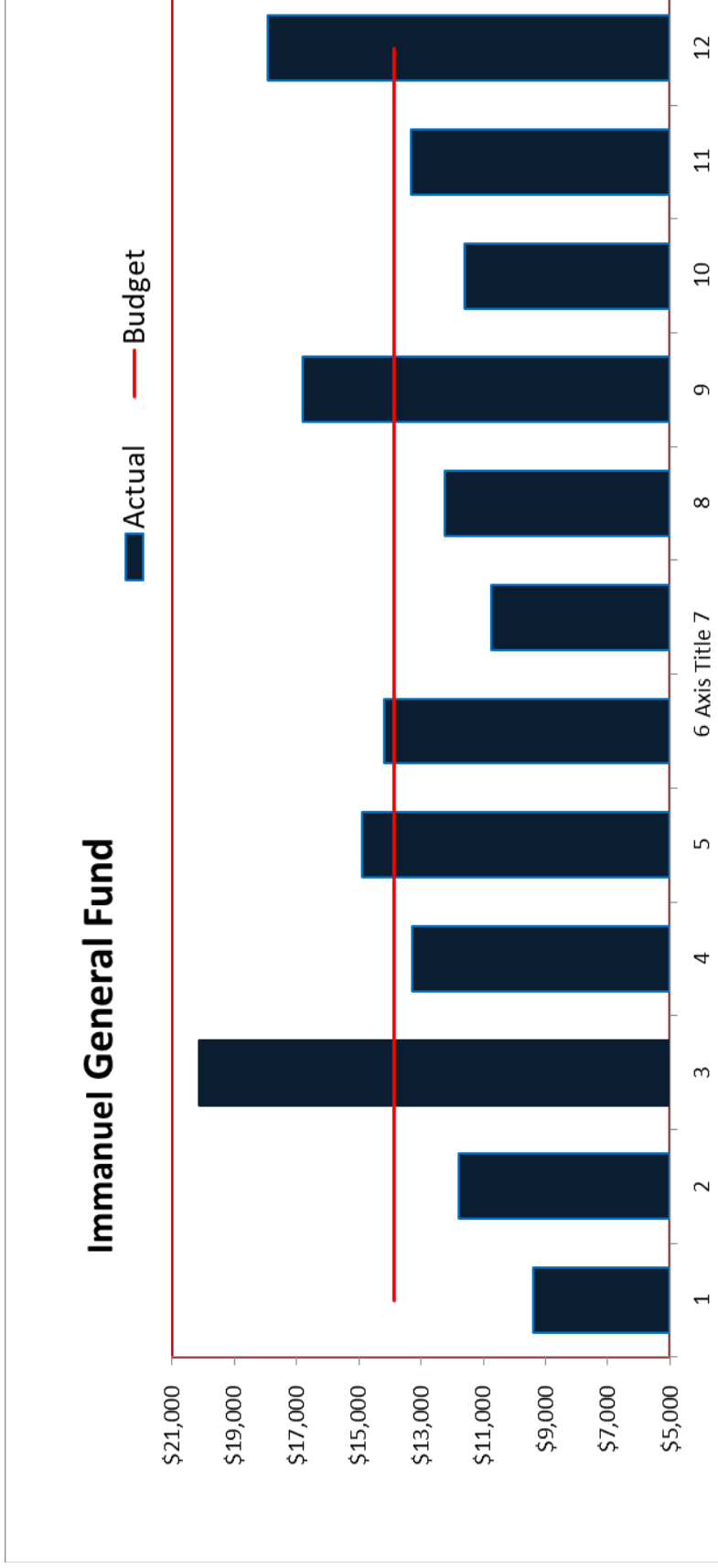
President: Lelyn Larson (c)970-371-0307
Vice President: Julie Elmquist (h)970-330-6679 or (c)970-371-2734
Secretary: Cindy Budde (c)970-371-6588
Treasurer: Connie Deines (c)970-378-1475
Financial Secretary: Bob Morse (c)303-359-5919

Receipts thru DEC 2024

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

DESCRIPTION	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Year to Date
Budget	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	13,878	166,536
Actual	\$9,373	\$11,803	\$20,148	\$13,299	\$14,881	\$14,181	\$10,721	\$12,252	\$16,804	\$11,586	\$13,308	\$17,937	166,294
Under (Over)	4,505	2,075	(6,270)	579	(1,003)	(303)	3,157	1,626	(2,926)	2,292	570	(4,059)	242



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

PURPOSE STATEMENT

*IMMANUEL IS CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE
LIFE, DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF
CHRIST; TO PROVIDE PLACES AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND
FELLOWSHIP; AND TO BE THE SPIRIT OF
CHRIST IN THE WORLD.*

We welcome and encourage submissions for our newsletter. Please make all submissions in writing. We prefer that the material be submitted in electronic form, if possible. All material is subject to editing for content, clarity and style, as needed. The deadline for the newsletter is the **15th** of every month.

Please forward your submission by mail to 1865 14th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631, by fax to 970-352-7096, or by email to office@immanuelgreeley.org

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1865 14th Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631

Return Service Requested

January 2025