

# EMANUEL CHURCH

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2026 VOL. 4 ISSUE 2

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### FROM PASTOR RON

*Jesus asked . . . “Who do you say I am?”  
Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the  
Son of the living God”  
Matthew 16:15-16*

As Jesus' time on earth was moving rapidly toward its climactic conclusion, he knew that the long history of the Jews and the prophecies of scripture had caused confusion and misunderstanding by the Jewish people and the religious leaders. Therefore, it was important, especially for those who would go on to be his apostles, to know, without a doubt, exactly who Jesus was. Not John the Baptist, not Elijah, but the Son of the Living God; sent to be the Light that brought people out of darkness and into the love of God.

The season of Lent, is traditionally a time of preparation for remembering the Passion of Jesus Christ. It is also a time of reflection on what Jesus has done for us. We often reflect on this from a historical, scriptural point of view. But even more importantly, as we journey forward in our faith, we must understand exactly who Jesus “is” and reflect on what he has done for us and his impact on our life.

This Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 18<sup>th</sup>) and each Wednesday evening Emanuel will take time to fellowship, worship, and hear personal testimonies of our brothers and sisters on the impact Jesus has had in and on their lives.

Join us and bring your friends each Wednesday at 5:15p for a soup supper followed by Worship and Testimony at 6:00p. This Lenten Season, let each of us stop and reflect on what Jesus has done in our lives

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FROM DANI

#### **Marked by Grace Lenten Study**

Join us for a warm meal, fellowship and be encouraged by powerful stories of God's grace at work in our lives.

Wednesdays - February 18<sup>th</sup> through March 25<sup>th</sup>

Soup Supper: 5:15p

Testimonies in the Sanctuary: 6-6:45p

Nursery provided and no Wednesday adult Bible Study during this time

#### **Lenten Study Help Needed**

Soups on folks, but we need your magical touch with the extras. If you can help with serving, clean up or by bringing a side-sign up in the narthex and join the culinary fun!

#### **Women's Mini Retreat: Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

Invite a friend to join us for a morning filled with Jesus in our hearts & coffee in our cups.

Doors open at 8:30a, programming from 9a-12p.

All denominations are welcome!

The \$10 fee covers a light breakfast and beverages.

~Guest Speakers~

Pastor Debbie Pimm-Testimonial

Kriston Barrows-How to Live Well

You are welcome to pay cash or check in the church office or online by scanning the QR code below.



## FROM THE TREASURER – GREG RUFVOLD

### Church Finance: General Fund: 2025 Unrestricted Gifts & Expenses

	December	End Year	2025 Budget
Offerings	\$53,081	\$292,978	\$306,915
Expenses	<u>\$23,999</u>	<u>\$303,593</u>	<u>\$317,660</u>
	\$29,082	\$(10,615)	\$(10,745)

I wish to thank all of you for the tremendous financial support that was provided to Emanuel in December! At the end of November our general fund expenses exceeded the amount of our member giving by approximately \$40 thousand. Due to your tremendous financial support in December, we were able to end 2025 with a loss in our general fund of only \$10 thousand. In addition, in December we received additional member giving to fully pay off our loan balance of approximately \$51 thousand at Baraboo State Bank plus \$9 thousand to apply to our Altar and Window projects. Our general fund weekly giving in 2025 averaged \$5,634. Based on our 2026 board approved budget, our weekly giving goal in 2026 is \$6,386. I pray that 2026 brings you and your family great joy and God's blessings!!

## 2026/2027 LANGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Students entering or continuing their education at a college, university, seminary, or post-high school vocational/technical school in Fall 2026 are encouraged to apply. Scholarships may be awarded for up to three years and are available to members and friends who are active, believing participants in the work, worship, and mission of Emanuel Church.

**NEW this year:** Applications are **online only**—no paper applications will be accepted. Apply at [www.emanuelchurch.net](http://www.emanuelchurch.net) by clicking the Ministries tab and selecting Scholarship.

### **Application deadline: March 15, 2026**

Questions may be directed to any member of the Lange Memorial Scholarship Committee: Darlene Bach, Greg Rufsvold, Gail Frank, Michelle Bahe, Brittany Crammond, Ann Effinger, or Pastor Ron.

## YOUTH GROUP FROM MICHELLE & JOSH

Happy New Year Emanuel! The Youth Group had a great delayed holiday celebration at our house to kick off the year. We had a chili dinner, games and a fun white elephant gift exchange. We are now gearing up for a weekend at Fort Wilderness. We have a total of 40 going this year....our BIGGEST group yet! We are looking forward to a weekend surrounded by God's beauty, diving deeper into his word and growing our relationships with each other. Thank you all for your support in helping with the cost during our different fundraisers. We can't wait to come back refreshed and filled with the Holy Spirit.

## FROM OUR BUSY CHURCH KITCHEN

Emanuel has so many opportunities to serve and fellowship!

If you weren't aware, take a moment to check out the counter in the church kitchen. Several pans and dishes—now clean!—have been left behind from our many wonderful cooks and bakers who generously contribute to our events.

If you're missing a pan at home, it may be waiting patiently in the kitchen for a ride back home.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

In February we continue with our overview of Paul's letters to the churches beginning with Ephesians then into Philippians:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Jesus' Saving Work with Holy Communion	Eph 2:1-5
8 <sup>th</sup>	United in Christ	Eph 2:11-18
15 <sup>th</sup>	Living as New People Adult Choir Anthem	Eph 4:1-13
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Centering Our Lives	Phil 2:1-11

## **Lent Wednesday Soup, Worship & Testimony**

Soup Supper at 5:15p & Worship at 6:00p

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
18 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday	Luke 15:11-32
25 <sup>th</sup>	Josh Bahe	

Consistent Giving – Consistent Ministry