



October 2025 Newsletter

From the feel of last month, you wouldn't think we are in the "ber" months of the year. The weather was great and the rain was much needed. Hopefully you have been able to enjoy some outdoor time. September was a very busy month and October will be too! Please check out what is all happening this month and get involved.

We are going to start the month with "Fill Your Cup." We are bringing coffee and fellowship time before church back to life! Starting at around 10:00am. You parents dropping off kids for Sunday School, come inside and stick around. Have a coffee, treat, and visit a while. Others, come in for church a little earlier and visit. We are hoping that this is something that will be continued on a regular basis and have volunteers to take care of the coffee and treats.

Our Mission Fest is scheduled for October 12th with a very special speaker, our very own Eastern ND Synod Bishop, Tessa Moon Leiseth. She will be sharing about her experiences with the Central African Republic. Please remember to designate your offering this day for special or general. We will also have noisy offering on this day. Noisy offering from September and October will go towards education in CAR. We are so very excited to have Bishop Tessa share time with us. Stay around for a fabulous potluck meal after worship service.

Gathered by Grace is another new idea coming to life. Every third Wednesday of the month, we will have a free community meal served at our church from 5-6pm while supplies last. The next meal is planned for October 15th! If you come this night, you can also get a puppet show! Starting at 6pm in the sanctuary, Cross Your Hands Puppet Ministry will be performing. We are looking for people to help prepare, serve, or donate to purchase supplies to make the meal. Let Lisa Zenker know if you can help in any way.

We will end this busy month with a special service and recognition to our Confirmation students on October 26th. A potluck meal will also be held on that Sunday. Join us in welcoming new members to our church!

I am always working to continue the power of prayer. Please remember those that could use a visit, a card, or a phone call. Take some time to brighten their day. We have many names on our prayer list and in our local nursing homes. Please share a moment with them. If you have any additions to our prayer list, let any council member know. Our next council meeting will be October 8th. We are here to serve.

Peace and Blessings, Sandi sraderma@hotmail.com 701-269-0706

I recently read a book entitled “A Big Gospel in Small Places: Why Ministry in Forgotten Communities Matters” written by Pastor Stephen Witmer. It made me appreciate the ministry done by Emmanuel Lutheran in this small (perhaps even forgotten) place called Gackle. In his book, Witmer talks about some characteristics of fruitful small place ministry; many of which I see at Emmanuel.

The first is being a listening church and creating a culture of listening among the members. The art of listening is way more than hearing the words that are being said verbally. It’s also paying attention to the non-verbal gestures that often accompany those words. It is truly knowing our neighbors and what is important to them. It knows Gackle’s history, its values, its struggles, its needs, its triumphs and its aspirations. It’s also knowing our church in that same intimate way. As we love our community, our church, and our neighbors, we put their needs ahead of our own.

Another important characteristic in fruitful small place ministry is being a celebrating church. “Celebrations are one of the most important identity shapers for small towns” (Witmer, pg.123). For the past several years, we have come to Gackle for the July 4th festivities. It’s fun to re-connect during all the events that take place that day. As Emmanuel takes part in these celebrations, it shows how important the citizens of Gackle are to us and hopefully we are to them. What might be other ways can we celebrate with those who work in our community? Have we ever thought about an appreciation dinner for the fire department, the city workers, or the teachers in our school?

Finally, we need to be a proclaiming church. It’s not enough to be a local, listening, serving, and celebrating church. To be the church, we must proclaim the gospel which shapes and transforms us. We know what goes on in our church service, but is our service welcoming to someone not familiar with Lutheran liturgy? Do we use insider language and words that only Lutherans understand? That was the beauty of trying “Messy Church!” It’s introducing the gospel in a different way, by being a place where people can gather often around a meal or a cup of coffee. It’s a program of activities that help us know one another on a deeper basis, especially those who might not regularly attend a regular service. Even though it’s unlike our usual expectations of a worship service, Messy Church is always centered around Christ with a short bible story and prayer as part of our time together. Is it different? Yes, it certainly is. Does it require us to change? Only in the format! For Jesus is the same, yesterday, today, and forever! Thanks be to God!

Shar Gumke,
Synod Authorized Minister



October Calendar of Events for our Church & Community

October 3rd- Coffee with kids at School 9am

October 4th- Gackle Care Center Bake Sale at Senior Center 10am-1pm

October 5th- Fill My Cup- Join us at 10:00am for special coffee and fellowship
 Worship Service 10:30am with communion, Sunday School 9:45am
 Fire Department Sausage and Pancake feed 10am-1pm

October 6th- Fall Music Concert at the school beginning at 6:30pm

October 8th- Church Council 8pm

October 12th- Misson Fest with Special guest- Bishop Tessa Moon-Leiseth and potluck!
 Worship service with Noisy Offering 10:30am, Sunday School 9:45am

October 15th- Gathered by Grace- free community meal- 5-6pm while supplies last
 Cross Your Hands Puppet Ministry performing in sanctuary at 6pm

October 19th- Worship service with communion 10:30am, Sunday School 9:45am

October 26th- Confirmation Sunday with potluck, worship service beginning at 10:30am

October 31st- Trunk or Treat at Emmanuel Lutheran from 5-6pm

November 2nd- Fill My Cup- Coffee and fellowship- 10am

November 19th- Gathered by Grace community meal 5-6pm

We want to continue to improve our monthly newsletter. Do you have something to add? Please let Haleigh know. Send her your information to her via email:

haleighjlewis@gmail.com

Those in need of continued Prayer:

Ava Maria: Duane Suko

Gackle Care Center: Helen Elhard, Wilbert Denning

Wishek Living Center: Violet Diede

New Salem: Karen Miller

Also in need of prayer: Dawn Veil-Stein, JD Dahl, Haleigh Hermanson, The Family of Rory Metz

October Worship Support

Ushers	Archie Koenig
Greeters	Denise Wittmier
Altar Guild	Patty Moos
Steward/Acolyte	Lisa Zenker

November Worship Support

Ushers	Dean & Carol Entzminger
Greeters	Jeremy & Tina Nitschke
Altar Guild	Carol Entzminger
Steward/Acolyte	Denise Wittmier

WORSHIP SUPPORT LIST FOR 2025

The list will remain the same from year to year unless there's a request to change it.

If you need a sub please refer to the list posted in the sacristy or contact stewards Lisa Zenker or Denise Wittmier.

Lisa- 701-368-9291 or lisamzenker@gmail.com

Denise- 701-269-1475 or denwitt@daktel.com

Visitations and Personal Communion

We are committed to looking into new options and the best ways to serve our congregation. Are you not able to make it to communion and wish to receive? We want you to know that we can serve you communion anytime. Would you like a personal visit? Let us know and we will schedule a time to get together. Know of anyone that hasn't been able to come to church that could use a visit? Let us know and we will give them a call and check in. We are still looking for

people that would like to help with visits too. All you need is the ability to talk, we can help with the rest.

Offering Envelopes:

If anyone does not have or is in need of offering envelopes, please let Bonnie Denning know. She will get them to you!! Thanks.

New Members

Are you interested in becoming a member of our church and we haven't asked you yet, please let a pastoral leader know or any council member. We are looking to plan a new member Sunday in the near future.



Our synod website has so much information to share with us about events happening in our area, training courses that we can attend or participate over Zoom, and so many more resources. They also have a newsletter that you can subscribe to through email. Please take a look!

www.eandsynod.org

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
G E N E R O U S L Y

Online Donations

Forget to bring your offering to church, haven't made it in for a while, or just want an easier way to donate to our church? You are able to donate online. Just a few clicks and you can share funds with us. Go to the address listed below, click on the donate button on the top. Select contribute under select support a specific congregation, click on another partner congregation, and then you can select Emmanuel Lutheran from the listed congregations.

www.ndchristiansact.org

Those members who bank at Dakota Heritage can also donate easily by setting up regular transfers between accounts. Contact the bank directly and see how they can help set this up for you.

In the Spotlight: Our Very Own:

Learn About Peg Kleingartner

We may think that we know her pretty well, but let's see if she surprises us!

Please share some of the basics about yourself- where you grew up? Who are you married to? Children/grandchildren? I grew up happy and healthy on a farm east of Carrington in the Bordulac area along with wonderful parents, 2 older brothers and 3 little sisters. I was one of the 69 CHS graduates in 1969. I attended Valley City State College and signed my first teaching contract with Gackle Public School in 1973. I wasn't really planning to stay, but I met a handsome area farmer who changed my mind! In 1975, just 5 days before Christmas, we were married at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Our son, Aaron, attended NDSU, and lives in Colfax, ND with his wife, Kari, and our 2 amazing grandchildren, Matthew and Sophie

What are a few of your hobbies? When I was young I learned to sew as a member of a 4-H Club and have continued to use that skill all my life. Currently I enjoy working on church quilts and spending time with the quilting gals. I also love to read, especially historical fiction from the Homesteading Era.

Do you collect anything? I guess you could say I collect "stuff" if you look in my closets, storeroom and garage. At this point in my life I am trying to downsize those items. I also have collected many wonderful memories from 32 years of teaching First Grade, and times spent with family and friends.

Do you have a Bucket list? If so, what are some of the things you have accomplished so far? What items still remain on your bucket list? I'm not really a Bucket list maker but I do hope to take a fun family vacation soon that involves air travel with our son, his wife and our two grandchildren.

What is the farthest you have traveled from home? Where to and what did you get to do there? In the summer of 1975 my cousin Deb and I vacationed in Hawaii. We enjoyed the sandy beaches, bright blue ocean, Pearl Harbor, the zoo, open markets, a luau and a pineapple farm.

What is your favorite summer activity? Every summer our grandkids spend time with us on the farm. They both learned to drive during their stays, first on the 4-wheeler and then the side by side. Playing with their dad's old toys, making forts, playing board games, watching movies, having water fights, shooting gophers and trips to see the Buffalo in Jamestown have happened

during those weeks. They especially like working with Grandpa in his shop making things out of wood

What is your favorite winter activity? Winter usually arrives early in ND so I'm going to count the first weeks of December as winter even though technically it's still Fall. I love preparing for Christmas. Everything from decorating, listening to Christmas music, making and shopping for gifts, baking goodies, reading Christmas stories and watching Hallmark movies.

What is the best advice you have ever received? Who gave it to you? Just a few weeks after I received my first driver's license, my brother, Lynn, and I were on our way home after a high school football game. He was driving when halfway home he pulled off the highway into an approach and said, "You need to know how to drive at night." Soon after we had switched places, a car came toward us in the other lane with very bright headlights. Lynn reminded me to dim my lights and told me to focus on the white line on the right side of the highway. That advice worked and I have used it many times not only at night but also driving in daytime blizzard conditions.

What is the most surprising fact you have learned over the years? I took a Probability and Statistic class in college. One fact I learned was that in a room of 24 people there is a 50/50 chance that two of those people share the same birthday and it increases to a 99.9% chance when 75 people are gathered.

What is one fact that few people know about you? I spent my 17th birthday on a train heading for Seattle with my cousin, Linda, to visit relatives. Since we went through 2 time zones that day, my birthday lasted 26 hours! Another fact is that during college I was a Math tutor and one of those summers I worked for my brother shingling houses.

What do you appreciate the most about living in our area? I love the wide open prairie and endless sky. Not only are the changing North Dakota seasons beautiful, they are also quiet and peaceful. It's where I feel God's presence the most.

What is your favorite family tradition? Gathering with my family on Christmas Eve is something I look forward to every year. It began as just the 8 of us going to our church Christmas Eve program, then driving around town to see all the Christmas lights and finally opening gifts in our living room. As the family grew to 40+ we needed to meet in a larger community space, but it was still wonderful to be together making lasting memories. ***Thank you Peg for participating in our spotlight! She does so much for our church and community!***

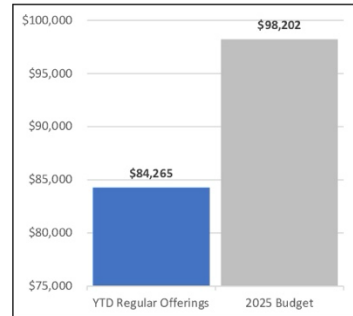
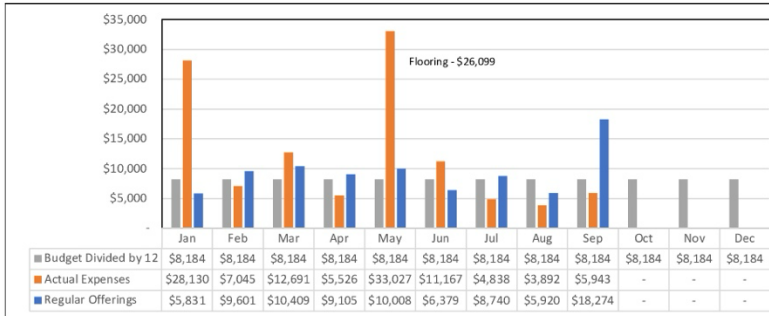


Emmanuel Lutheran Church Financial Report

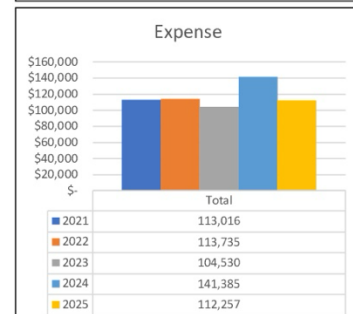
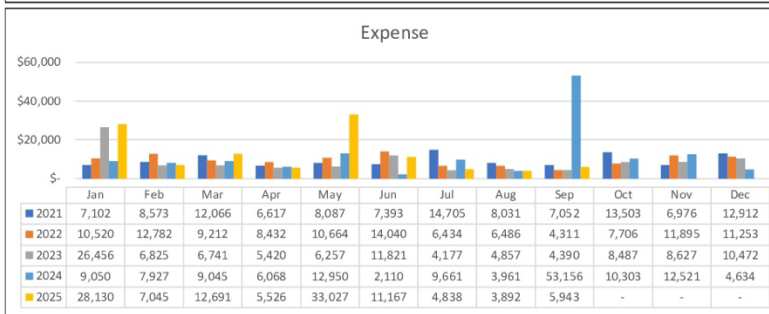
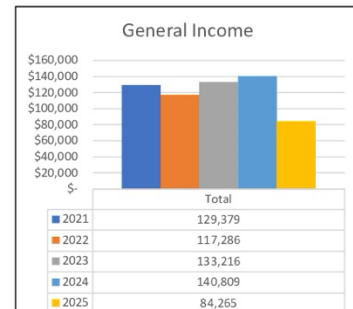
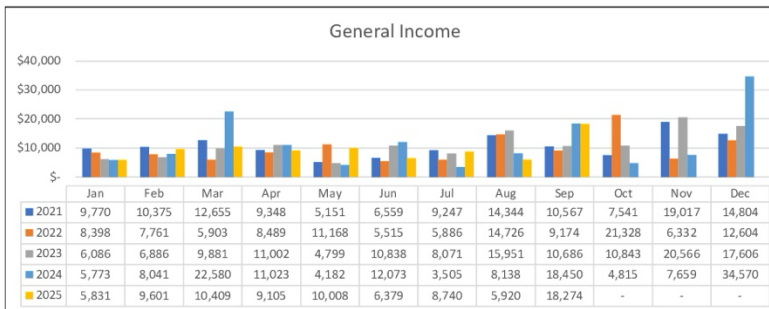
As of 09/27/2025

2025 Year to Date

Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Regular Offerings	\$5,831	\$9,601	\$10,409	\$9,105	\$10,008	\$6,379	\$8,740	\$5,920	\$18,274	-	-	-	\$84,265
Actual Expenses	\$28,130	\$7,045	\$12,691	\$5,526	\$33,027	\$11,167	\$4,838	\$3,892	\$5,943	-	-	-	\$112,257
Balance	(\$22,299)	\$2,556	(\$2,282)	\$3,579	(\$23,018)	(\$4,789)	\$3,902	\$2,028	\$12,331	-	-	-	(\$27,991)



Year over Year



If you have any questions or feedback, please contact Marella Sebring.
marellasebring@msn.com
763-228-0599

A branch with coffee leaves and berries is in the top left corner. A large, dark brown coffee bean is in the top right corner.

FILL MY CUP



**JOIN US SUNDAY, OCTOBER
5TH STARTING AT 10:00AM
FOR SOME COFFEE AND
TREATS**

A dark brown leafy branch is in the bottom right corner.



MISSION FEST

Sunday

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

OCTOBER 12, 2025
WORSHIP SERVICE
BEGINS AT 10:30 AM

**SPECIAL GUEST: EASTERN ND
SYNOD BISHOP
TESSA MOON LEISETH**

Potluck meal to follow



Please join us in celebrating

Confirmation Sunday

October 26, 2025 at 10:30 am
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Gackle, ND

POTLUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW



WINTER COAT DRIVE

SPREAD WARMTH THIS WINTER



COLLECTING YOUTH AND ADULT SIZES
COATS, HATS, GLOVES, ETC.
(NEW OR GENTLY USED)



OCTOBER 19TH - NOVEMBER 9TH



DROP OFF LOCATION :
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH, GACKLE
INSIDE NARTHEX

GET READY FOR A
SPOOKY
HALLOWEEN
TRUNK OR TREAT
EVENT

OCTOBER 31 | 5-6PM
EMMANUEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH,
GACKLE

SERVING FREE HOT DOGS
(SPONSORED BY THRIVENT)



CONTACT LISA ZENKER TO RESERVE YOUR
PARKING SPACE: 701-368-9291 OR
LISAMZENKER@GMAIL.COM



Gathered by Grace

October 15th
from 5-6pm

Featuring Puppet Ministry
show from 6-7pm

Now offering delivery and take-out meals!

Call or text Lisa to place
your order
701-368-9291

Everyone is welcome!

Church Records

We Need Everyone Please Fill Out!

Have you filled out and submitted your information yet?
Bonnie has been working very hard to collect information.
She still has some more work to do.

It has been on our "To Do List" for quite some time to review our Church records and make updates and corrections. Bonnie has begun the process and needs our help. We specifically need all information updated from 2014 to present. Any Marriages, Births, Baptisms, Confirmations, and Deaths we need to know so that we can make sure that it has been properly documented. Any transfers into our church or out of our church would be helpful too. Please take a look at the following form, fill out, and return to Bonnie in person, her mailbox by office, or by emailing her at sports@daktel.com. We very much appreciate your help!

We are updating our Church records. Lots of information is missing.
Please fill out a sheet for each family member with the following information to assist with the records.

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: Home _____ Cell: _____

Birth: _____

Date: _____ Where: _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Brothers: _____

Sisters: _____ Baptism: _____

Date: _____ Where: _____

Pastor: _____

Sponsors: _____

Confirmation: _____

Date: _____ Where: _____

Pastor: _____

Marriage: _____

Date: _____ Where: _____ To Whom: _____

_____ Pastor: _____

Children: _____

Duties of the Ushers

(reviewed on 3/2022)

1. Arrive at church 30 minutes prior to service.
2. Turn Sanctuary lights on and off before and after service.
3. Raise and lower shades on windows before and after service.
4. Put up hymn numbers (numbers are in room to left of altar in cupboard).
5. Turn on the Cross at altar (switch is labeled in room to the right of altar).
6. Turn lamps on for the Lectern and Pulpit. Turn off after service.
7. Fill ceramic pitcher with water and place on baptismal font along with silver bowl that goes in the baptismal font (pitcher and bowl are located in room to the left of altar on the counter by sink).
8. Hand out bulletins, newsletters, etc.
9. Ring church bell at least 3 times just before beginning of the service.
10. Count the number of people attending the service (easily done from the balcony sometime after service has begun) (number in attendance is to be written in the book which is in the fellowship hall).
11. Receive offering plates, gathering offering, and bring offering forward when pastor signals.
12. Usher people forward for Holy Communion (one usher stands towards the front to allow worshipers to advance to front).
13. Usher people out when church service has concluded.

2025 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office 701-485-3368
SAM-Shar Gumke 701-320-1920
SAM- Joel Zenker 701-997-9047

Council Members:

Sandra Rivinius, President <i>sraderma@hotmail.com</i>	701-269-0706 (cell)
Marella Sebring, Council Treasurer <i>marellasebring@msn.com</i>	701-485-3543 (home) 763-228-0599 (cell)
Tina Nitschke, Council Secretary	701- 830-1957 (cell)
Bonnie Denning, Financial Secretary sports@daktel.com	701-485-3798 (home) 701-320-5864 (cell)
Lisa Zenker, Steward <i>lisamzenker@gmail.com</i>	701-368-9291 (cell)
Denise Wittmier, Steward <i>denwitt@daktel.com</i>	701-269-1485 (cell)
Steve Moos, Trustee Smoos59@msn.com	701-320-3597 (cell)
Taylor Lund, Trustee <i>bubbalund@gmail.com</i>	701-307-0056 (cell)

Other Contacts:

Haleigh Zenker, Church Office Secretary <i>haleighjlewis@gmail.com</i>	952-270-1747 (cell)
Bonnie Denning, Organist Church Work Groups <i>sports@daktel.com</i>	701-485-3798 (home) 701-320-5864 (cell)
Julia Friez, Custodian	435-256-5631 (cell)