



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

Quarter 4, 2022

9 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Sunday Services



## Message by Pastor Eugene DeVries



### Confirmation:

4:15p on Wednesdays

### Bible Study:

7:00p Mondays

10:00a Thursdays

*Last Thursday: November 17*



### Where Are You?

In the garden of Eden, the voice of God echoed through the trees. "Adam, where are you?" Why would Almighty God ask such a question? On the surface it sounds like a question of location. Are you over here or over there? But it was also a spiritual question. "Adam, where is your heart?" "What do you want?" "Whom do you love?" God asked this question because of his grace. God knew that Adam and Eve had sinned. He knew their hearts were filled with fear and loathing. Yet, in his boundless love, God chased after them. In his grace and mercy, God called out to Adam, calling him to repentance and faith.

God asks us the same question. Where are you, spiritually speaking? Where is your heart? Whom do you love? God asks these questions even though he knows the answers. He knows your hearts are filled with fear and shame, just like Adam and Eve. He knows about the things that keep you isolated and alone. You and I are not much different from Adam and Eve. We feel embarrassed by our sins and shortcomings. We know that God expects more of us. And how can we show our face when it has been so long?

In our modern age, we try to solve all our problems with technology. We have online devotions, Bible lessons, and live streams. All of them are temporary replacements for what we really need. We need the presence of God. We need to confess our sins and receive his absolution and forgiveness.

These human needs are the reason why the church gathers. It's not just that we like singing together and hearing God's word. We need it. Imagine if we all stayed home and watched a live stream of the best preacher on the internet. We would hear the word and sing some hymns. We might type messages to each other in the little text box. But how would we feel? I think we would still feel empty and alone. Something would be missing. We might even accept a lesser preacher if only we could gather together; if only we could see each other face to face and experience the presence of God!

Today the church continues to ask God's question. Where are you? Where is your heart? What do you love and treasure above all else? God loves and treasures you. Your life and your salvation is God's highest priority. Come gather with your fellow sinners to receive his grace and mercy. Come rejoice in God's goodness and be renewed by his presence.

*Pastor DeVries*

## 2022 Church Board Officers:

Chairman: David Rusch

Vice-Chair: Brad Duesterhoeft

Secretary: Mike Brekke

Treasurer: Mike Heine

Financial Secretary: Brian Gauer

Delegate: Harold Plath

Trustees: Bruce Trick

Matt Forcier

Steve Wendorff

Elders: Jason Horrmann

Justin Black

Steve Plamann

Finance Committee:

Andy Weber

Michael Thompson

Ron Kohls

Cemetery Board: Dale Kohls

Willard Wendorff

Jeff Hoff

School Board: Jay Mackedanz

Jeremiah Clark

**Next Voter's/Congregational Meeting is  
Tuesday, January 17 at 7 p.m.  
Everyone Welcome!**

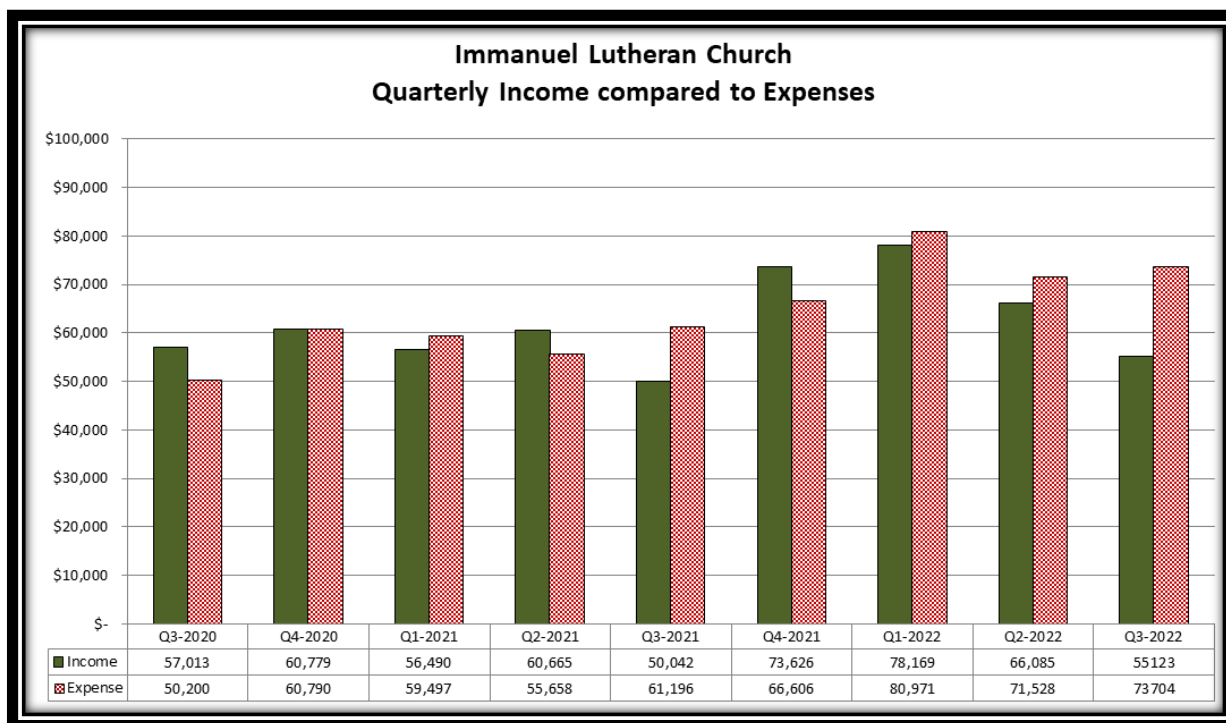
The **Quarterly Voter's/ Congregational Meeting** was Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

**Pastor's Report:** Monthly visits have been scheduled with our shut-ins. We have 4 students in catechism with one 8<sup>th</sup> grader scheduled for confirmation in the spring. With the new hymnals, Pastor's goal is to provide more leadership with the new psalms, as comments have been received concerning the new hymnal. No membership changes.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Trustees reported that the snow plowing contract with Pro Home Improvements (Larry Murphy) is in place for the winter. The deck/stairs project on the back of the parsonage is progressing with selected replacement of old/rotted lumber. The installation of the new AC system in the church basement has been completed. Another piece of trim has blown off the church in a recent windstorm and will be reattached.

**The School Board Report:** The current enrollment is 68 students; we have a new 7<sup>th</sup> grader starting on October 31 making 69 students. Soccer and volleyball have been completed for the season, with basketball season set to start after Thanksgiving. We have had the help of 1 student teacher thus far, with 1 more coming soon.

The newly amended copy of the Articles of Agreement for Immanuel Lutheran School Inc. were presented and discussed. As per our constitution, they are to be presented at one meeting and voted on at the next. Extra copies are in the church entryway for everyone to read. A final vote on the Articles will be at the Annual meeting in January.



**2022 Officers:**

**President:** Marilyn Rusch  
**VP/Secretary:** Wendy Hellwig  
**Treasurer:** MaryAnn Dettman

**Next Meeting**

**No meeting in December  
January 11, 2023**

At the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting we were privileged to have Deb Boelter present her hobby of creating memory bears. This includes making/constructing memory bears, memory pillows and infant burial clothes. We found the presentation interesting and informative, along with her sharing how she got started on the hobby. In the month of September, our group was running a food collection for MLC college, we thank all that supported the success of the project.

At our October meeting we were pleased to welcome the Farm Girl Fresh owners. Their presentation titled, Eating Pure in a Processed Foods World. The presentation included hands on preparing several dishes including explanations of healthy foods versus processed foods. An interesting fact: in 2012 an average adult consumed 168lbs of sugar a year, with soda being the #1 contributor. By 2018 the amount of sugar consumed by the average adult dropped to 140lbs. The presentation created an awareness when preparing foods.

Immanuel Ladies Aid, stock greeting cards in the church library with new cards for sale. The price of the greeting cards has increased from 50 cents a card to \$1.00 a card, a box of cards has increased from \$5.00 a box to \$8.00 a box.

Also, the Ladies Aid are organizing a trip to see the Church Basement Ladies at the Ames Center in Burnsville on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. the cost is \$36.00 per person. Transportation will be extra provided by the Hutch school Bus service. Sign up by December 11<sup>th</sup> in the church entryway.

## Ladies Executive Board

**2022 Officers:**

**President:** Janel Radunz  
**VP:** Deb Boelter  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Wanda Gauer  
**Directors:** Brittany Clark, Sharon Smith, Kim Schmeling

The next meeting is scheduled for **January 18, 2023**.  
Election for Officers will take place  
~~Vice-President, Director and Secretary/Treasurer~~

If you have any questions prior to the January meeting,  
please contact one of the Officers.

## G.I.L.L. - Grace and Immanuel Luther League

**Leaders:** Pastor DeVries, Pastor Tobison, Jennifer and Chad Koenen

**G.I.L.L.** stand for "Grace and Immanuel Luther League". We serve the youth (4th to 12th grade) of our two congregations through Bible Study and fellowship activities.



At the WELS youth rally this past summer, many people said it would be great to have larger size youth gatherings more often. The youth rally only happens every other year. So someone had the idea for regional youth events. The Central Minnesota Youth Night will be hosted by Petra Lutheran at the Sartell Community Center. The first gathering will happen on November 13 from 3:30 to 5:30. Future gatherings are planned for February 12 and May 14. High school age young people are invited to "enjoy games, music, snacks and fellowship while digging into some tough topics that could impact your life every day. You will learn what the Bible has to say about them and find comfort and hope in God's promises."

Locally, our own GILL group plans to have a lock-in at Grace in December. 3D night will happen on January 15 as we gather for Dartball, Dominoes, and Devotion.

**Thrivent Coordinator:**

Julie Thompson

Register on line:

[www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com)

Do you have a Thrivent Policy?

If so, are you aware of the programs at no cost to you that could benefit the church and/or the school?

“**Choice Dollars**” can be designated to the church or school at no cost to you.

“**Action Teams**” when approved, provides \$250 of seed money to be use towards an event, again at no cost to you.

***Applied for and approved:***

- Food Shelf Drive for MLC
- Ladies Aid Appreciation Luncheon
- Children’s Christmas Candy Bags

## LWMS



In 2023, the Annual National Convention will be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

The Crow River Circuit (which we are part of along with of seven (7) congregations from the area) and the Rock River Circuit will be co-hosting this convention. The Rock River Circuit is from Wisconsin and consists of 20 congregations.

It is being asked from these congregations for donations to assist in covering the expenses. It is estimated that approximately 1,500 people would be attending due to its 60th year. *(The convention in 2018 was attended by 1450 people and expenses were \$7,300)*

If you would like to send a donation, Please make checks payable to:  
Carol Hausz, LWMS Treasurer  
Memo line: LaCrosse Convention

Send to: Carol Hausz, LWMS Treasurer  
104 Jefferson St.  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Thank you for your contribution.

## Fellowship Committee

**Next Meeting:**

January 29, 2023 at 2p  
Everyone Welcome!

Chair: Pastor DeVries  
Secretary: Barb DeVries  
Treasurer: Julie Thompson

**Activities:**

November 13 - Quarter 4 - Birthday celebration – caked served

December 3, 2p-4p – Craft Day

Supplies provided – Repurposing the old red hymnal into decorations.

Sign up in in the entryway so that we have enough supplies prepared. A

free will donation will be collected to defray expenses. Contact Deb

Plamann or Barbara DeVries with any questions.

December 4, 5p-7p – Christmas Around the World

Come and go, Enjoy samples and see other traditions

January 29 – New Member Welcome

*Anyone is welcome to join the Fellowship Committee to help plan various activities for our congregation.*

*If any questions, please feel free to contact one of the officers.*

## Teachers:

Pre-School & Kindergarten:

Amanda Weber

Grades 1-3:

Deb Plamann

Grades 4-8:

Barb DeVries

*“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”*

Twenty children have attended Sunday School this fall. We are studying the early Christian church after Jesus ascended into heaven.

Services for the Children's Christmas Eve program have been handed out at Sunday School or in the church mailboxes. Children in preschool and Kindergarten will recite all together. Children in first through eighth grades have individual parts assigned. The rehearsal schedule is also included in a separate letter. Please contact Pastor DeVries, Barbara DeVries, Deb Plamann, or Amanda Weber with any questions.

## Choir



### Choir Coordinator

Chrissy Forcier

This season our choir will be singing hymns out of the new hymnal that may be a bit more unfamiliar to our congregation. Our hope is to get our church members more comfortable with the newer hymns and build up their confidence to sing along. Feel free to follow along in the hymnal when we perform!

Also, if you're interested in joining, you're in luck! We accept any willing participants! **Practices are every Monday at 6:30, with the exception of the first Monday of the month.** Practices are just 30 minutes so it's not too much of a time commitment. We are not professionals, but we are happy to sing God's praises and to help jazz up our church services.

## School Building Update



### School Board Officers:

Ryan Bushman

Tim Utsch

Jon Hoff

Jeremiah Clark

Jay Mackedanz

### School Building Committee:

Jay Mackedanz

Bruce Trick

Steve Wendorff

Brian Lokensgard

Jon Hoff

Lance Hartkopf



Thank you for your time and encouragement during our Building ~ Faith ~ Foundation campaign. It's a very exciting time to think about the blessings God has in store for us and the impact we will have on our families and congregations. Thanks for your support! We have raised commitments of about \$1 million so far. Our fundraising efforts continue as we get closer to our building date of early Spring 2023. Please see our website or send a check to school if you are interested in donating. [hutchinsonlutherschool.com](http://hutchinsonlutherschool.com)

With approval from both Grace and Immanuel, we will start construction as soon as the ground is ready in Spring of 2023 with our 7 classroom building. It should be move-in ready by late fall if everything goes according to plan. Be sure to check out the plans at church or on our website! We are currently waiting for our county permits for the building of the new school pending a turn lane request from the state that is slowing the process down. We should have a final building cost in January, as we wait for an approval from Builders for Christ to help with some of the construction and hopefully, reduction in the cost.

One of the amazing blessings that come with a new building is that we can accommodate more students. The school board is getting ready to call a preschool teacher for our increased enrollment for next year. Please keep a look out for the upcoming call meeting date.



**Principal:** Brian Gephart  
Grades 4 to 8

**Teacher:** Kristi Utsch  
Grades K- 3

**Teacher:** Mallory Eckstrand  
Pre-School

**School Board Officers:**

- Ryan Bushman
- Tim Utsch
- Jon Hoff
- Jeremiah Clark
- Jay Mackedanz



Immanuel Lutheran School and Children of Grace Preschool  
20917 Walden Ave. Hutchinson, MN 55350

**hutchinsonlutheralschool.com**

Greetings from Immanuel Lutheran School and Children of Grace Preschool. We are finishing up our 1st quarter for the 2022-2023 school year. This year our theme is “Courageous in Christ” based on 1 Corinthians 16:13. With our faith built on the rock, our redeemer, we can be courageous and stand firm in that faith as we face trials and temptations. We can be a light to our community, to our family, and to our friends as we courageously stand up for Jesus.

We welcome and all time high 70 students this year; 25 students in Mrs. Eckstrand’s room, 19 in Mrs. Utsch’s room, and 26 in Mr. Gephart’s room. We are very excited to have an extra full house and we look forward to seeing the blessings God has in store for us this year.

**November**

- 6th - Sing at Grace
- 11th - Veteran’s Brunch @ Immanuel Church Basement (Invite only)
- 13th - Prek-3rd Play @ Immanuel 3pm
- 17th - 4-8 Forensics @ MLC
- 23rd-25th - Thanksgiving Break
- 29th - Basketball Starts

**December**

- 4th - Sing at Zion/St. Peter
- 22nd - Jan 3rd - Christmas Break

**January**

- 8th - Sing at St. Paul’s, Litchfield
- 16th - No School

In Christ,  
*Brian Gephart, Principal*

**MR. GEPHART’S CALL:**

Immanuel/Grace Lutheran and school family, I’ve been honored to deliberate a call to Winnebago Lutheran Academy to serve as math teacher and coach. I had good conversation with some of their staff as well as encouraging comments and conversation with some of you. I appreciate the support you have given myself and my family. At this time, my family and I will stay in Hutchinson to see the building project through and continue to see what wonderful blessings God has in store from that. There are many exciting opportunities to come as we continue to grow and share God’s message to our students and community.

In Christ, Brian Gephart

**ILS are also participating in PROJECT BOOKSHELF this holiday season!**

The Friends of the Hutchinson Public Library are sponsoring a program for distributing new books to children during the holidays. The program seeks to call attention to and support the importance of reading, and being read to, in the lives of children. Giving a child a book can be the introduction to an exciting world of adventure, discovery, and companionship. Reading and education are powerful weapons in breaking the cycle of poverty, but for many families, buying books is out of the question; they can’t afford it. Giving a child a book can arouse interest in using the public library, a valuable, lifelong habit. Chimney-decorated drop-off box will be in the entryway of school with collection dates from November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup> . The books will be distributed locally by United Community Action Partnership. *Since these books will be Christmas gifts, they should be new books.*

Money donations to purchase books are also welcome and should be sent to:

Friends of the Library  
c/o Hutchinson Public Library  
50 Hassan Street SE - Hutchinson, MN 55350



## Church Decorating

On Saturday, **November 26 at 9:00 a.m.** we will be decorating the church for Christmas. If you have an hour or so to assist, it would be greatly appreciated. *Thank you.*



**Door Offering** will be held on Sunday, December 4th and Sunday, December 11th for the children's candy bags that will be handed out on Christmas Eve. *Thank you.*



## Christmas Cards

The Ladies' Aid has Christmas cards available for sale. They are sold by the box and are in the church library. They also have an assortment of birthday and many other general greeting cards.



## Poinsettias

If you would like to help beautify our church with poinsettias in celebration of Jesus' birth, please sign up on the sheet in the entry way by November 29th. Colors are red, pink and white at a cost of \$11.50 each. If you have any questions, please contact Betty Henke or Donna Telecky.

## Belle Plaine Lutheran Home Christmas Party

Once again we will be collecting Christmas gifts (and BINGO prizes) for the residents at Belle Plaine Hope Center. These gifts assure that every resident will receive a Christmas gift. A collection box will be available throughout November.



- Craft paints, water-soluble
- Construction paper -- Sketch pads
- Easy craft kits -- Snap-on care models
- Markers -- Scissors
- Puzzles, 300 piece -- Word search puzzles
- Leather making kits -- Manicure sets
- Hand lotion - Hand-held game videos
- CD players, CD's easy-listening music
- Small snack items for bingo prizes
- Large print books -- Necklaces
- Washable slippers -- Men's aftershave
- Scarves - Baseball caps
- Open-front sweatshirts or cardigans
- Bottled "ice" water any flavor
- Puddings
- Word search books
- Small Hershey bars
- Body and Bath Lotion
- Dollar Store Adult Coloring Books

Use **Scrip** as Christmas gifts. Place orders by December 11th and the gift cards will be delivered before Christmas. As always, local cards are on hand after that date for last minute gifts. Contact Karen Kohls.

*SCRIP: Are gift cards available and you pay the face value of the card and the school receives a percentage. The money earned provides ILS field trips throughout the year. Remember the cards are available all year long. Thank you for your support of our School and Pre School. A listing is found at school and church. Please see Karen Kohls to purchase.*

# Holiday Services

## Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 24

8:45 a.m. at Zion

10 a.m. at Immanuel



## Christmas Services

### Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24

3:00 p.m. at Zion

7:00 p.m.—Children's Service at Immanuel

**Christmas Day**—Sunday, December 25

8:45 a.m. at Zion

10 a.m. at Immanuel



**BoxTops** – This is digital. For us to get credit, you will need to download the Box tops for Education App on your smart phone, search Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson and scan your receipt.



**Cash Wise More Rewards** - Sign up at <https://www.morerewards.com/>. Designate Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson MN . You can also download the app, MORE Rewards on your smart phone.

**Ink cartridges** - Empty cartridges from computer printers; can be sent in anytime, no shipping charges!

**Loaves4Learning** – UPC's found on Country Hearth and Village Hearth products. (Breads).



**School Mall** – Like to online shop? Shop through [www.schoolmall.com](http://www.schoolmall.com) Search for Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson MN.

**AmazonSmile** – is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization, Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson MN.



**CocaCola Gives** – Go to [www.cocacola.com/give](http://www.cocacola.com/give) go to donate to school, search for Immanuel Lutheran School, Hutchinson MN, sign up, and enter codes. Codes are found on Coke product bottle tops and inside cartons/boxes. You can also bring the codes to school and we can enter them! Checks are distributed to the school quarterly.

**Scrip** – Purchase gift cards from participating retailers. (A percent of the gift card goes to the school) To order scrip gift cards, contact Karen Kohls (Immanuel) [kohls@hutchtel.net](mailto:kohls@hutchtel.net) 320-444-0170 or Teresa Ross (Grace) [taross316@gmail.com](mailto:taross316@gmail.com) 320-305-9262.

**Kwik Trip has a new promotion going on for in store purchases. There is a new “GROCERY” card and by using this card, 15% is donated to the school. (excludes: fuel, tobacco, alcohol, lottery or stamps) The regular Kwik Trip cards are still available for fuel and instore purchases, and will donate 5% to the school.**

## PTF

*Thank You for helping support our school!*

### Officers:

President: Rebecca Plocher  
VP: Brittany Clark  
Secretary: Patty Schaefer  
Treasurer: Eileen Prieve  
Teacher Appreciation:  
Nicole Washburn  
Fundraising Chair:  
Beth Podratz  
Social Chair: April VonBerge

### Meetings:

Second Monday of  
the month at  
6:30 p.m.

We wanted to take a moment to say thank you to all the volunteers who helped work in the Cash Wise Brat Stand this summer. We truly appreciate all your help! This is a nice fundraiser for the school as it gets us out in front of the community. We raised \$1,441 which helped pay for a new electric piano for the school.

This year our fall fundraiser was selling fall mums. We raised \$1,543. Thank you to everyone that ordered mums!

PTF approved to pay for the new ‘blue’ hymnals for the children in grades 4-8<sup>th</sup> to use.

We also continue to pay for school cleaning and expenses associated with the sports teams. We are in the process of making a 2023 school calendar that we will sell for our Winter Fundraiser. The calendars should be available by the end of November!





**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
20882 Walden Ave.

Find us on the Web: [www.immanuelhutch.com](http://www.immanuelhutch.com)

*Monthly Calendar (under Church/calendar)*  
*Weekly Bulletins (under Church/service)*



<https://www.facebook.com/immanuelhutch>

**Services are streamed live on Sundays at 10 a.m.**

Pastor Eugene DeVries

Phone: 320-587-4857

Cell: 320-405-6490

Email: [eugene.mark.devries@gmail.com](mailto:eugene.mark.devries@gmail.com)

Church Secretary: Julie Thompson

Phone: 320-583-6007

Email: [juliethompson@mchsi.com](mailto:juliethompson@mchsi.com)

Nuvera

Sunday Services are broadcasted

**Mondays at 10 a.m. and Sundays at 9 p.m.**

**NuTelecom—Channel 10 or Mediacom—Channel 107.3**



## Altar Guild:

November: Wanda Gauer  
December: Betty Henke and Donna Telecky  
January: Deb Boelter and Julie Thompson

## Ushers:

November: Bruce Trick, Jon Hoff, Don Dettman, Andy Weber, Dylan Weber, Travis Gauer, Nolan Hoff, Justin Black  
December: Kori Leske, Jay Mackedanz, Steve Wendorff, Mike Yerks, Craig Kohls, Carl Horrmann, Tom Schlueter, Lucas Plamann  
January: Jeremy Prieve, Mike Thompson, Alex Prieve, Andy Prieve, Kyle Podratz, Chuck Nisse, Brad Duesterhoeft



## Weather Closings

Winter weather will soon be with us again. On days with questionable weather, meetings and/or worship cancellations will be announced on KDUZ-1260 am radio and on

[www.immanuelhutch.com](http://www.immanuelhutch.com)

## Email, Phone and/or Address Changes

And if anyone has an update to their email, address and/or phone, please let Julie Thompson know at [juliethompson@mchsi.com](mailto:juliethompson@mchsi.com) or Church Box #75.

## Our Sympathies



To the family of Leonard Tewes, who passed away on September 17.  
To Barb and Don Rasmussen, their daughter, Cathy, passed away on October 21.

## Congratulations to!



Larry and Karen Koepp – who will be celebrating their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in January.

## Offering Envelopes



**2023 Offering Envelopes are available.** Please pick your box up on the table in the entry way. *Thank you.*

## Please check your church mailbox

Some of the items that are placed in your mailbox monthly are the Church Council minutes and Church Calendar.

If you would like to receive these items via email, please provide your email address to Julie Thompson at

[juliethompson@mchsi.com](mailto:juliethompson@mchsi.com)

