

NORTH IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

PELICAN RAPIDS, MINNESOTA •
218-863-5447
NOVEMBER 2026

We are all familiar with the story of the first Thanksgiving celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. And we may know that it was in the midst of the Civil War in 1863 that Thanksgiving was established as a National holiday under President Lincoln to be celebrated annually on the fourth Thursday of November. However, the first proclamation issued by the United States as a country came in 1777 during the Revolutionary War when the Continental Congress set aside December 18 as a day for "solemn thanksgiving and praise."

Samuel Adams known as the "Father of the Revolution" penned the proclamation. Below is an excerpt: (I have bolded all of the references to God throughout this proclamation.)
FORASMUCH as it is the indispensable Duty of all Men to adore the superintending Providence of **Almighty God**; to acknowledge with Gratitude their Obligation to **him for Benefits** received, and to implore such farther Blessings as they stand in Need of: And it having pleased **him in his abundant Mercy**, not only to continue to us the innumerable Bounties of **his common Providence**; but also to smile upon us in the Prosecution of a just and necessary War, for the Defense and Establishment of our unalienable Rights and Liberties;
It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive Powers of these UNITED STATES to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth Day of December next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE: That at one Time and with one Voice, the good People may express the grateful Feelings of their Hearts, and consecrate themselves to the Service of their **Divine Benefactor**; and that, together with their sincere Acknowledgments and Offerings, they may join the penitent Confession of their manifold Sins, whereby they had forfeited every Favor; and their humble and earnest Supplication that it may **please GOD through the Merits of JESUS CHRIST**, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of Remembrance;
That it may **please him**, to prosper the Trade and Manufactures of the People, and the Labor of the Husbandman, that our Land may yield its Increase: To take Schools and Seminaries of Education, so necessary for cultivating the Principles of true Liberty, Virtue and Piety, **under his nurturing Hand**; and to **prosper the Means of Religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom, which consisteth "in Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost."**

Samuel Adam's parents had hoped that he would become a clergyman, but it seems obvious that God used Adam's for the purpose of establishing this great Nation. Samuel's second cousin, President John Adams, also understood the necessity of the Christian faith in establishing and holding this Nation together. He wrote on July 4, 1821, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: it connected in one indissoluble bond the

principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity." He also stated, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

As people of faith and citizens of this great Nation it is our duty to continue to acknowledge with gratitude the abundant mercy and blessings we receive from God; to join the penitent confession of our manifold sins; and to prosper the means of religion – in other words promote the Christian faith. Beginning with the Pilgrims, the Thanksgiving holy-day has never been about merely being thankful, it has always been about giving thanks to God!

Together in Christ!
Pr. Nate Bjorge

Pastor Nate Bjorge
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Email: pastornatebjorge@gmail.com
(320) 360-0277 cell

Parish Secretary, Kara Tollerud
43303 County Hwy 21, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Email: nilchurch@yahoo.com
(218) 731-2672

Council President Duane Ishaug
11 2 1/2 St SE, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
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Council Vice President Tom Axness
42607 120th Ave, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
(218) 329-6882

Council Secretary Jane Knorr
12790 County Hwy 30, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
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406 11th St NE, Barnesville, MN 56514
(218) 354-2367

Custodian: Steve Strandlien
29342 180th Ave S, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
(701) 730-4423 cell
(218) 863-6416 home

Treasurer: Shyla Strandlien
28998 180th Ave S, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Email: s.strandlien@outlook.com
(701) 541-1888

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of North Immanuel Lutheran Church and in recognition of the gift of grace we have received through Jesus Christ, our Mission is:

-To develop a personal and Spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord,
-To provide an environment for the continuing Education and further teachings of all ages,
-To reach out to welcome all to grow with us in faith through worship and serving others in our community and throughout the world.

CEMETERY BOARD OFFICERS

Chairman—Duane Ishaug	(218) 280-0589
Treasurer—Judy Johnson	(218) 863-2204
Secretary—Tom Axness	(218) 329-6882

North Immanuel is Online:

http://www.facebook.com/NorthImmanuelLutheranChurch
http://www.nilchurch.org

Do you prefer to get your Seed & Feed emailed to you? If so, please email the church (nilchurch@yahoo.com) and state your preference.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
SHOEBOX COLLECTION
November 22, 2026

- ✓ Check out this website for suggestions: https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/
- ✓ Cardboard shoeboxes and labels are available at church.

North Immanuel Church Council Minutes

October 14, 2026

Present: Karen Bakken, Jane Knorr, Duane Ishaug, David Aas, Bryant Briard, Tom Axness, Pastor Nate Bjorge, and Shyla Strandlien Treasurer

Absent : Grant Meyer, Nolan Dunham, Leon Dunham, Erin Tollerud

Called to order by Duane Ishaug at 6:00 p.m.

Devotions led by Pastor Nate. Shared a story. Read from Proverbs.

Treasurers Report – At this point we have paid for the cabinets and painting. Not sure if appliances were purchased by the ladies group. Waiting for bills from the plumber, electrician and purchases Steve S. made throughout the project. There is still $14,000 left in the remodeling fund to help cover these costs.

Secretary's minutes reviewed by council before meeting. Bryant Briard made a motion to approve. Karen Bakken 2nd motion. Motion passed.

Pastors Report – Visitations. Worship services at nursing homes, a wedding, ministerial meeting. We have a confirmation class with students Brenden Craik and Colten Dunham. It is held on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m..

Committee Reports –

Evangelism and Worship – Received a thank you from Teen Challenge for hosting them. The offering was $1200 from the service. Karen had someone that watches online ask if we could use microphones so they can hear the congregation respond. Discussed using TV screen to have responses on. We will start putting the bulletin on Facebook page each week before Sunday services. We will continue to work on ways to improve live stream. Mike Nettestad offered a saxophone group to play special music on a Sunday if we are interested. We will start putting together a list of the soups and goodies for the Granders concert.

Stewardship – We will be having a Chili Cook Off on November 1st from 5-7. A freewill offering will be taken to use for the kitchen remodel. The church will supply the crackers, cheese, bread, butter and beverages to go with the chili. An entrant should make enough chili for at least 10 people. There is a $10 entry fee which the top winner will receive. Anyone is welcome to enter a chili. The council members need to be up to help with it between 4 and 4:30 that afternoon.

Christian Education – A day at the pumpkin patch was held. Erin hosted the event. We are starting to look into Christmas Program ideas.

Property and Management – The kitchen remodel is nearing completion. Looking for a different silverware rack for the dishwasher. Steve Strandlien did a wonderful job coordinating the project. Jane Knorr made a motion to purchase a $1000 gift card to give to Steve to help cover the costs of his gas and time for the hours he spent on the project. The funds will be taken from the kitchen remodel. Tom Axness 2nd motion. Motion carried. Discussed taking the insurance settlement for the siding that was offered by the insurance company to help pay for the painting that will be needed in the spring.

Benevolence –

A donation will be given to a local individual that has been dealing with many challenges.
Jane Knorr made a motion to donate $500 to Teen Challenge. Karen Bakken 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

New Business-

Randy Juveland recently passed away. He will be buried near his family in the cemetery.

Coffee then a short adult education will begin after the new year. More information to come at a later date.

Meatball supper is this Sunday. Helpers are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Jane Knorr

North Immanuel Lutheran Church

September 30, 2026

Year to Date Income	$73,855.77
Year to Date Expenses	$85,248.06
Net	$-11,392.29

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Not included in the above numbers

KITCHEN PROJECT:

Transfer from CD's and interest	$37,000
Donations	$396.45
Expenses to date	$22,459.94
Funds remaining	$14,936.51

For those who'd like to give from afar or schedule recurring giving, online offering now available! Visit our website at NILChurch.org or scan the QR code:

NORTH IMMANUEL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Worship
9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion
First and Third Sunday of each month

Coffee Fellowship
10:00 a.m. following worship services

Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Sept-May

Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Wednesdays

Serving Opportunities

- Serve Sunday Coffee Fellowship
  10:00 a.m. following worship
- Be a Reader Sunday morning
  Reading material is available ahead of time
- Offer special music for worship service
  Contact Bonnie H, Conni A, or Pastor Nate

Nate Bjorge, NILC Pastor
320-360-0277

NILC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Duane Ishaug, President
218-280-0589

Tom Axness, Vice President, Property & Management
218-329-6882

Jane Knorr, Secretary, Education
218-731-4464

Nolan Dunham, Property & Management
218-205-6247

Grant Meyer, Property & Management
701-403-0578

Bryant Briard, Stewardship
218-849-8353

Leon Dunham, Worship
218-493-4365

David Aas, Worship
218-329-2135

Karen Bakken, Worship
701-412-6420

Erin Tollerud, Education
218-329-3393

Come Grow old with me, the Best is Yet to Be

The Following is a list of our members who are either in a Senior Living Facility, Nursing Home, or are homebound in some way.
We understand that at times like this, you may want to call ahead to see if a personal visit is encouraged or welcomed. If not, a phone call, a note or card in the mail goes a long way to warm a heart & brighten a day.

Dennis Stoen
532 Douglas Ave W 218-517-9044 (cell)
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Dennis is living in the Pioneer Home in Deerwood.

Ila Ishaug
Shorewood Landing
6000 Chaska Rd Apt 110
Shorewood, MN 55331

Loretta Ishaug
215 E Mill St Apt 107
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Lois Ishaug
119 N Broadway
Room 105
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

If you know of someone who should or would like to be on this list
please call or email the church office 218-863-5447 nilchurch@yahoo.com

The most important thing you can give the elderly is your TIME.
Time is the most precious gift of all, and it doesn't cost a thing.



Birthdays are a good time to reflect on the blessings that you have been given by God. Here are our members who have birthdays in November so we can help each other celebrate.

Tanner Nelson	11/03	Beverly Mahmood	11/18
Gerald Thompson	11/06	Grant Meyer	11/18
Jayme Lynnes	11/06	Thomas Serra	11/18
Johanna Knorr	11/09	Sherry Klovstad	11/19
Amanda Dunham	11/10	Logan Knorr	11/21
Farrah Briard	11/11	Joseph Roste	11/24
Heidi Fouquette	11/16	Jared Lynnes	11/25
Kelly Osborne	11/16	Allyssa Ross	11/26
Scott Delp	11/17	Ethan Fearing	11/27

This list is not yet complete. If you have a birthday in November and your name is not here, or if the date we have is incorrect, please call it to Kara so we can update our records. May your birthday be a blessed one!



Following Worship service

Christmas Concert

Wednesday, December 2 | 7:00 p.m.

North Immanuel Lutheran Church

Live concert by:

The Granders

The Christmas Concert will also be livestreamed on the North Immanuel Facebook on December 2

Available on YouTube after the concert at youtube.com/@northimmanuellutheranchurc1305

Fellowship Supper from 5:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
Homemade Soups, Breads & Christmas Sweets

Everyone Welcome!
Invite your Friends, Family & Neighbors.



North Immanuel Lutheran Church
12713 County Highway 30,
Pelican Rapids, MN

"Shop with a Hero"

This annual event has helped provide funds to children of Otter Tail County through the Shop With A Hero Program since 2014.
Please help to brighten a child's Christmas by making a donation to:
North Immanuel Shop With a Hero, PO Box 438, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

FERGUS FALLS AND OTTER TAIL COUNTY SHOP WITH A HERO EVENTS:
December 8, 2026 - Fergus Falls Fleet Farm Store and December 10, 2026 - Fergus Falls Walmart Store.
Fergus Falls Police has received community grants for the 2026 Christmas shopping event.
Contact Shannon Riggle at Fergus Falls Police Dept. at (218)332-5538 or sriggle@fergusfallsmn.gov for more information.

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ALL SAINTS DAY DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ends 9:00 a.m. WS/HC: 10:00 a.m. SS **	*2*	*3*	*4* 9:00 a.m. BS 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. POH 6:00 p.m. Conf.	*5*	*6* 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. POH	*7*
8 9:00 a.m. WS 10:00 a.m. SS	*9* NEW MOON	*10*	*11* VETERANS DAY 9:00 a.m. BS; 10:00-6:00 POH; 6:00 p.m. Conf.; 7:00 p.m. Council meeting	*12*	*13* 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. POH	*14*
15 9:00 a.m. WS/HC 10:00 a.m. SS	*16* Deadline for December S&F and Calendar	*17* 1ST QTR MOON	*18* 9:00 a.m. BS 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. POH 6:00 p.m. Conf.	*19*	*20* 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. POH	*21*
22 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. WS & Shoebox Collection 10:00 a.m. SS	*23*	*24* FULL MOON	*25* 9:00 a.m. BS 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. POH No Conf.	*26* THANKSGIVING DAY	*27*	*28*
29 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00 a.m. WS 10:00 a.m. SS	*30*	**5:00-7:00 p.m. Chili Cookoff LAST QTR MOON (November 1st)			Greeters: Taylor & Cheyanne Briard (1, 8, & 15); Bryant & Allie Briard (22 & 29)	***If you are unable to serve, it is your responsibility to find a replacement.***

KEY: PTS=Pastors' Text Study; PDO=Pastor's Day Off; LL=Luther League; POH=Pastor's Office Hours; SS=Sunday School; HC=Holy Communion; WS=Worship Service; Conf.=Confirmation; BS=Bible Study; LS=Lenten Service

"I have a great need for Christ; I have a great Christ for my need."
—Attributed to Count Zinzendorf

NOVEMBER 2026

NORTH IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 438
PELICAN RAPIDS, MN 56572-0438

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SHARING
THE NEWS
WITH…



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