



**Welcome to ReFresh at Emmanuel
(Restoring Energy, Faith, and Relevance to Every Soul's Heart)**

October 26, 2025

Welcome to ReFresh at Emmanuel

Welcome Visitors! We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Thank you for worshiping with us. We strive to live as a Safe and Healing Spiritual Community for all who come, regardless of socio-economic status, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or spiritual path. All are welcome in this holy space.

We invite you to worship with us on Sundays at our 9:00 am Calvary/Emmanuel Traditional Worship Service in the chapel or our ReFresh 10:30 am Service either in person or on ZOOM. The Recorded Service is available on Facebook after the service.

To gather online by computer, tablet, or smartphone, use the following link.
<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/82726742888?pwd=WFewOVbXZGd3OHFzSXQ1WXIVTHppZz09>

Don't forget to sign the greeting cards for our Emmanuel Family Members.
The cards are on the table in front of the Celebration Room.

Assisting in Worship Today

Preaching/Presiding: Rev. Frank Langholf
Lector: Susan Hurley Whitacre
Special Musicians: Josh and Kelli Luebke
Accompanist: Clea Arbogast

Altar Guild: Brendan Noble
Consultant: Bill Houtkamp
Sound: Andrew Ehrhardt
Greeting Cards: Taj Guzzardo

Yoga With Claudette Pirrello, Mondays at 5:00 pm

Cardio Drumming With Beth Campisi Mondays at Emmanuel, 4:00 – 5:00pm

Spiritual Journeys on Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 am on Zoom

Silent meditation practice in the Benson Room at Emmanuel.

Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:00pm – All are welcome.

Enter by parking lot entrance. Questions or text Sara 815-742-0581.

Bible Study on Wednesdays at Noon on zoom.

Dial 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 893 5688 8344

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 920 Third Avenue, Rockford, IL 61104

Mailing address, P. O. Box 4362, Rockford, IL 61110

815-963-4815 Fax: 815-963-4808 emmanuelchurch07@gmail.com elcrockford.org

Pastor Frank Langholf, phone 309-509-5241, email: fslangholf@gmail.com

Date: October 26, 2025
Theme: The Great Turning

Prelude: Selection by Clea Arbogast

Welcome: Pastor Frank Langholf

Meditation: “If the world is to be healed through human efforts, I am convinced it will be by ordinary people, people whose love for this life is even greater than their fear.” — Joanna R. Macy

Our Community Declaration:

**Guided by Spirit’s Wisdom, Inspired by Creator’s Imagination,
Centered in Christ's Love, and knowing that God is our Source,
Emmanuel is a Spiritual Community that is progressive, inclusive, creative, and
called to serve.**

Opening of the Heart 15. Litany of Praise and Confession—Claralice Wolf

Come to us, God of peace.
Come with your healing and your reconciling power.
Come, that fear may be cast out by love;
that weapons may be replaced by trust;
that violence may give way to gentleness.
Come to us, God of peace.

Come to us, God of justice.
Come with your righteous judgments and your mercy.
Come, that we may hear the cries of the oppressed in every land;
that we may see the suffering of the poor in our own land;
that we may return to the way of righteousness and compassion.
Come to us, God of justice.

Continued...

Come to us, God of love.

Come with your extravagant kindness and your goodness.

Come, that we may see you in the people of every race and culture;
that we may embrace you in the lonely, the bereaved, and the rejected;
that we may be an accepting and a caring church.

Come to us, God of love.

Come to us, God of unity.

Come with your forgiveness and your healing grace.

Come, that we may witness to reconciliation for a divided world;
that we may gather around Christ's table as one people;
that we may affirm one church, one faith, one Lord.

Come to us, God of unity.

Come to us, God of hope.

Come to us with your promises; come in your mysterious presence.

Come, that we may marvel at your faithfulness in past generations;
that we may celebrate the new things you are doing among us today;
that we may be your pilgrim people on our journey to your kingdom.

Come to us, God of hope.

Come to us, O God, as we gather together and pray.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

Proclamation of Grace:

Presider: The Good News is we are beloved children of God. We live in the promise of Christ, and NOTHING can ever separate us from God's love.

Gathering Song: Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

First Reading— Quietness —by Rumi

Inside this new love, die.
Your way begins on the other side.
Become the sky.
Take an axe to the prison wall.
Escape.
Walk out like somebody suddenly born into color.
Do it now.
You're covered with thick cloud.
Slide out the side. Die,
and be quiet. Quietness is the surest sign
that you've died.
Your old life was a frantic running
from silence.
The speechless full moon
comes out now.

Second Reading. The Great Turning—by Lisa Garcia-Sampson

In these wild, historic, and uncertain times, we gather
to remember who we are,
who we belong to,
and what we are called to do.

At this moment, we kindle the spirit of the great turning:
the movement for justice alive in this nation today.

May we feel it in our bones,
and in the stillness of this hour, may we sense it calling our name.

Scripture/Meditation Song: Change My Heart, O God (ELW 801)

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Scripture: Joel 2: 23-32

O children of Zion, be glad, and rejoice in the Lord your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army that I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved, for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Presider: These are the words of an early Jewish community.

All: **May we find wisdom for our living.**

Sermon: **Pastor Frank Langholf**

Offering

Presider: We take this time now to offer our gifts and intentions.

Special Music: Selection by Josh and Kellie Luebke

Time for Gratitude

Prayer Song: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (ELW 752)

The image displays a musical score for the song 'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying' (ELW 752). It is written for a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Prayers of the People

Allison, Jonathan, Julaine, Ray, Donna, Jim, Ellie, Susan, Caryl,
Wanie, Anita, Susan

Jennie, Char, Judy, Shannon, Ian, Miguel, Mike, Matthew, Tom, Sophie, Vince,
Todd, Bina, Deborah, Jeff, Peg, Karen & Jerry, Nathaniel & Hannah, Tim Geoppo,
Mary Jo, Dr. Abu, Emi, Isaiah, Manny, Leeza, Louis, Barbie, Janine, Mike

The Lord's Prayer— God, who cares for us By © Monica Furlong

**God, who cares for us,
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe.**

**Let kindness, justice and love shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.**

**Give us the food and the hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.**

**Protect us from pride and from despair
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.**

**In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,
while worlds come and go.
Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Song: We Shall Be Known By the Company We Keep

**We shall be known by the company we keep
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires
We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap
The seeds of change, alive from deep within the earth**

[Chorus]

**It is time now, it is time now that we thrive
It is time we lead ourselves into the well
It is time now, and what a time to be alive**

**In this Great Turning we shall learn to lead in love
In this Great Turning we shall learn to lead in love**

Benediction/Sharing of Peace

The Mayor's Hunger Luncheon is Wednesday, October 29th, at Veteran's Memorial Hall. Doors open 11:30 am, the program and luncheon start at noon. To Donate, go to the Community Foundation of Northern IL's website, cfnil.org/mhl. All the money that is donated goes to the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition and is divided up between the nine Coalition pantries, of which we are one. Thank you from the pantries and our neighbors.



Emmanuel's Congregational Envisioning

Council met on October 7 to review the notes from all the envisioning meetings. They will share possible next steps for Emmanuel at the potluck on November 2nd.

Please join us after the 10:30am service on Sunday, November 2, for prayer, potluck, and a presentation of what council has learned from the small group gatherings.

Sign-up sheet for the potluck is on the table outside of the Celebration Room or call the church office at 815-96-3815 to let us know how many will be attending and what you will be bringing.

Women's Interfaith Potluck: All women are invited to attend the interfaith potluck, listed below, which start at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. Plates, silverware, and beverages will be provided. Please join us!

Monday, October 27, 2025, Zion Lutheran Church, 925 5th Ave., Rockford

NOTE: entrance at the BACK of the church, off the parking lot.

The topic will be their outreach programs including Patriots Gateway Center, Ruthie's Kitchen, and Katie's Cup.



Mark your calendar. We need you!

Fall grounds cleanup is scheduled for November 8th from 9:00-noon.

Sanctuary Prep for the Messiah is scheduled for November 22nd from 9-noon. Please make every effort to join the crew! You won't regret it....

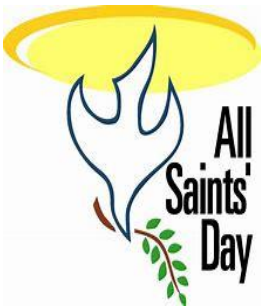
Soul Garden Hikes

Come hike for an hour in Winnebago Counties Forest preserves. Text Holly if you want to join the hikes: 815-543-1191. At Forest preserve entrances unless otherwise instructed. Link to Descriptions of all 44 Forest Preserves

<https://www.winnebagoforest.org/items> All hikes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, November 3, 10:00 a.m.
Ferguson Forest Preserve
8602 W. Winslow Rd
Durand, IL 61024

Saturday, November 15, 10:00 a.m.
Rockford Rotary Forest Preserve
5390 Rotary Road
Cherry Valley, IL 61063



All Saints Day - November 2, 2025

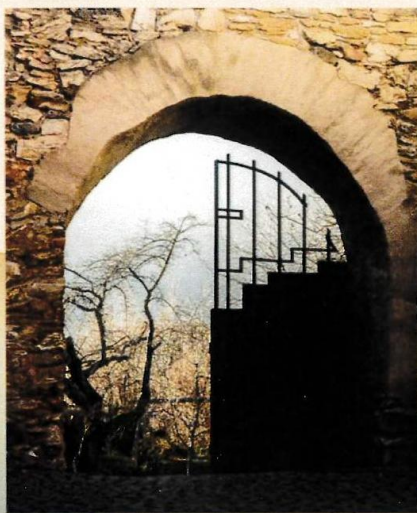
On Sunday, November 2, 2025, we are celebrating All Saints Day at the 10:30 a.m. service. The names of those beloved of God, who died and entered the fullness of God's presence since November of last year will be read at the service, and a candle of remembrance will be lit for each one.

If you would like to have the name of a Loved One read aloud on All Saints Day as you or Pastor lights a taper for them, please call the office at 815-963-4815 and leave a message for Pat, or talk with Karen Van Howe, or leave a message at emmanuelchurch07@gmail.com

You are invited to bring a framed picture (something that will stand up) of your loved one to be placed up front prior to the beginning of the service. Someone will be there to help you. The photos may be retrieved after the Service. This is an opportunity for our entire congregation to give thanks and remember the hope and faith of the beloved in our lives who are at home in fulness of God's Life and Love.

New Belly Dancing Session Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17 at Emmanuel

Belly dancing is incredibly empowering. People of every size and ability level will have fun while building confidence, strength & grace. In the classes you will learn the Egyptian roots of Belly dance and the modern tribal & fusion styles. Short combinations will be incorporated into drills that focus on muscle group isolations, core stabilization, strengthening and lengthening of muscles, sharp & fluid motions, musicality & dance etiquette. No previous dance experience required and great for all fitness levels. Register with Emily Rice 773-456-1245 - Cost: \$10/class



Arts at Emmanuel A@E

Invites you to join us for an
evening of art inspired by

Thresholds

Opening Reception &
Holiday Market

in the Gallery at Emmanuel

Friday, November 7, 6:00-8:30 pm

920 Third Ave. Rockford

Art Exhibit Nov—Jan

Thresholds is a mixed media art exhibit that highlights artists perspective of the concept of *Thresholds*. We invite you to join us to experience the collective wisdom and expressive interpretation of *Thresholds* through art.

Artists exhibiting: Jean Apgar, Barbara Berney, Susan Berry, Steve Coogan, Sara Fleming, Holly Fuca, Karen Gínes, Marsha Goodheart, Lori Gustafson, Chris Hoessrich, Susan Hurley-Whitacre, Norm Knott, Ruth Ann Molneaux, Violet Munoz, John Naretta, José Sentè & Tim Park.

If you would like more information, please contact Susan Hurley-Whitacre
at 708-845-7207 or susanhurley2010@gmail.com