

Immanuel United Church of Christ
141 N. Service Rd. West
Wright City, MO 63390



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OFFICE PH. 636-745-3864

Pastor Tom Higgins Ph. 314-650-4795, email: higgins-thomas@att.net

DECEMBER 2016

Dec 4 Sermon: "God is Able"

Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-12

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Advent

Jackie Nierman	Greeter/Usher
Aaron Wilber	Reader/Usher
Robert Freund	Usher
Lois Meyer	Guestbook/Usher

Dec 11 Sermon: "Right in Front of Us"

Scriptures: Isaiah 35:1-10, Matthew 2:1-11

Third Sunday of Advent

Lee Fast	Greeter/Usher
Kelvin Lashley	Reader/Usher
Mason Newcomb	Usher
Jackie Nierman	Guestbook/Usher

Dec 18 Children's Program

Scriptures: Matthew 1:18-25

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Lavelle Requat	Greeter/Usher
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Kolton Martin	Reader/Usher
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Anthony Freund	Usher
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Aimee Wilber	Guestbook/Usher
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Dec 24 Sermon: "He Saved Us"

Scriptures: Isaiah 62:6-12, Titus 3:4-7,
Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Eve

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Lee Fast	Reader/Greeter/Usher
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Roland Niemann	Usher
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Beverley Willoughby	Guestbook/Usher
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Dec 25 Sermon: "A Great Life"

Scriptures: Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Day

Darrell Schmidt	Greeter/Usher
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Karen Cox	Reader/Guestbook/Usher
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Elmer Vahle & Mary Sue Sitton	Ushers
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Pastor Higgins plans to be at church every Wednesday and then at other times according to the church schedule. If someone enters the hospital or there is an emergency, please notify him as soon as possible. Contact information listed above.

• **Just a few notes.....DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 19**

- Dec 18 Christmas Program
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services 9:00 pm
- Dec 25 Christmas Day Services 10:30 am
- Jan 15 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off, After Church
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Prayer List

Please keep all of our members in your prayers, especially the ones who are not able to attend services or those who are facing health issues. Alice Windmann is in charge of Immanuel's Care Committee. She sends notes or makes calls to members when she knows they

are in hospital or having health concerns. Pastor Tom will be glad to make visits to anyone but will need your help to know who would appreciate a visit or call. Contact Pastor Tom at 314-650-4795.

Also, members in need of prayers for any reason are listed in our weekly bulletins. Contact Margaret Viehmann to have names added to bulletin.

The Pastor Relations committee

Bud Nissen reported at the November council meeting that the committee continues to hear a lot of positive comments about Immanuel and our services. He thanked Pastor Tom for his time and efforts in serving for us.

Pastor Tom will be working with Jackie Nierman, Evangelism, to start a sponsorship program for new members. The program would consist of assigning a "Sponsor Friend" to the new member. This friend would help new members to get acquainted with Immanuel and our activities throughout their first year of membership. If any current member would like to be a part of the "Sponsor a Friend" program for new members, please contact Jackie Nierman or Pastor Tom.

*******Please contact me, Debbie Meyer, if there has been a change in your phone, address or email. Also, please let me know if you have any children's addresses who may have moved out of your home or are in college. We would really like to get all the addresses we can.**

You can get in touch with me by phone, 636-459-5515 or 636-745-3319. Email: dendebmeyer@yahoo.com or thru the church facebook page.

We are on the WEB

Look for us at "immanuelucc.weebly.com"

Changed the name of our website. Hopefully it will be easier to find. Let me know if there is something you would like to see on there.

Don't forget Our Church is on FACEBOOK

Go to: **Facebook.com**

Search for Immanuel United Church of Christ

There is already some information on it for you and you can see the friends who have signed on. It also provides links to the UCC website and more. Become a fan and leave your own message on the wall.

Elisabeth Thompson, Debbie Meyer, Whitney Cox, Jackie Nierman & Beverley Willoughby are the administrators of this sight. You can send info to these people to put on our page.

COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 09, 2016

Mary Sue called the meeting to order with Rev. Higgins leading us in prayer. In attendance: Jackie Nierman, Lee Fast, Lavelle Requat, Mary Sue Sitton, Roland Niemann, Bud Nissen and Rev. Higgins.

Secretary's Report: Bud made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Lee seconded, motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Lee made the motion to approve the report as presented, Jackie seconded, motion carried.

General Treasurer's Report: Lee made the motion to approve the report as presented, Roland seconded, motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Evangelism committee or Church council might consider telling our new members about our monthly newsletter and other activities we have on Sunday mornings.

Building & Grounds: No report.

Christian Workers: September attendance was 237 with an average of 60.

Evangelism and Stewardship: Anniversary Dinner had a good turnout. Don't forget to wear red Oct. 30th. Nov. 6th is All Saints Sunday. Nov. 13th will be Veteran's Day. Nov. 20th will be the Ingathering for food for the Wright City Food Pantry or Agape. Nov. 27th will be Friendship Sunday with the Church Council serving soup and sandwiches after Church. Need to get people to help with Advent.

Memorial: Should be getting the new tables.

Pastoral Relations: Everything seems good.

Evening Circle: Meeting Oct. 23rd.

New Business: We want to "Thank" Bud for helping Mary Sue with the Agenda.

Old Business: Kelvin Lashley has agreed to run for the Church Council in 2017.

No further business to discuss Jackie made the motion to adjourn, Lee seconded. Everyone joined hands in the Lord's Prayer.

During the advent season, we will be bringing God's light into our services through the lighting of a special candle each Sunday. Once again, plans are to have individuals or families read the litany and light the Advent candle. If you would like to volunteer to take part in the advent candle lighting during December, contact Jackie Nierman via e-mail at jackie.nierman@centurytel.net or call 636-745-3096.

Third Annual Chili Cookoff – Sunday, January 15th

After the annual meeting, everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall for chili and hot dogs. This is our time to see who the good chili cooks are at Immanuel. Bring in your special chili, preferably in a crockpot so that it will stay hot until after church to Fellowship hall by 9:30 am on the morning of the 17th. Chili will then be judged by our volunteer expert chili tasters. Judging will be based on several things such as spice factor, thickness as well as taste! Prizes will be awarded including the presentation of the first-place golden soup ladle. Last year's winner was Elisabeth Thompson.

Everyone attending the lunch will also vote on a crowd favorite! Potato soup will be provided for any non-chili eaters, so everyone of all ages come join in the fun and fellowship. The challenge is on for everyone to bring in a pot of chili to the contest! The more entries, the more fun!

Love Gives – December Stewardship

Moment

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Have you ever thought about how love affects giving? Love prompts us to give of ourselves, our time, abilities and resources. The Bible tells us that God is love, and the world will know that we are His followers by the love we show. Someone once said, "You can give without loving but you can't love without giving." Giving is what shows our love!

We are entering into a time of the year that the world knows as the season of giving, but let's remember to take time to focus on the greatest gift of all, the gift of eternal, abundant life through Jesus. Receive Your love and Your gift of eternal life. Pray that God will help you to love others the way He loves you. Then, go out and share the gift of love with someone else because it's the gift that will last in eternity!

Just a note to our new members & anyone else. If you are getting your newsletter by mail or picking it up at church. Please let me know, if you would rather receive it by email. You can email me (Debbie Meyer) at dendebmeyer@yahoo.com

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER 2016

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY

Dennis & Debbie Meyer	3	Angus Maloney	2	Kody Martin	8
William & Patricia Brockmeyer	10	Jesse Hollenbeck	2	Lori Murry	19
Richard & Margaret Ramey	13	David Vohsen	3	Rebecca Schriener	19
George & Linda Jaeger	17	Karen Cox	3	Jack Groeper	25
Tony & Jane Blanton	22	Sherry Hollenbeck	3	Robert Borgers	25
Ann & Melvin Meyer	22	A.J. (Aaron) Wilber	7	Patricia Krueger	26
Brenda & Roger Wilkins	24	Richard Maloney	7	Sadie & Sophie Case	26
Terri & Richard Baker	27	Anthony Freund	9	Whitney Schmitt	27
William & Mary Mikus	27	Jason Case	9	William Wehrman	27
		Kenneth Niemann	13	Philip Viehman	28
		Jacob Boyd	14	Treesa Reckamp	28
		Robert Cole Bote	14	William Creech	28
		Imogene Bilyeu	17	Raymond James Requat	29
		Taylor Windmann	17	Jerry Johnson	31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT OCTOBER 2016

GENERAL FUND

Offering	\$5789.00	
AA Group 393--Jan thru Dec	300.00	
Initial offering	4.00	
Interest-American Bank of Mo.	340.42	
" " " "	205.00	
		\$6638.42

BENEVOLENT FUND

Offering	\$ 55.00	
Strengthen the Church	300.00	
Neighbors in Need	135.00	
Agape food pantry	5.00	
		\$ 495.00

BUILDING FUND

Offering	\$ 30.00	
		\$ 30.00
		<hr/>
		\$7163.42

Immanuel United Church of Christ – October 2016

Beginning Balance \$41,884.75

GENERAL FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$6,696.68
10/26/2016	Adjustment from 2012 & 2013	Ameren payment logging adjustment	\$-	\$2,683.33	\$4,013.35
10/26/2016	Adjustment from 2012 & 2013	Balance of discrepancy	\$-	\$283.55	\$3,729.80
10/30/2016	Check # 11364 - June	Adjustment - to Memorial Fund	\$2,199.00	\$-	\$5,928.80
10/1/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$1,744.42	\$-	\$7,673.22
ACH 10/5	GuideOne	Insurance Premium	\$-	\$773.91	\$6,899.31
10/6/2016	Interest Earned	CD	\$37.70	\$-	\$6,937.01
11400	On The Go Inc	Trash pick up - October	\$-	\$38.50	\$6,898.51
10/11/2016	Deposit	Cashed in CD	\$50,002.05	\$-	\$56,900.56
ACH 10/11	Centurylink	Phone and Internet service	\$-	\$179.57	\$56,720.99
ACH 10/11	Wright City	Water bill	\$-	\$41.29	\$56,679.70
10/12/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$949.00	\$-	\$57,628.70
11401	Christopher Sadler	Lawn Care - Church	\$-	\$240.00	\$57,388.70
3/21/1935	Edward Jones	Investment	\$-	\$50,000.00	\$7,388.70
ACH 10/14	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$355.00	\$7,033.70
ACH 10/14	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$190.00	\$6,843.70
ACH 10/14	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$247.00	\$6,596.70
11404	Farmers Super Market	To settle bill	\$-	\$36.95	\$6,559.75
10/17/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$1,546.00	\$-	\$8,105.75
11399	Thomas Higgins	1st half of October Salary	\$-	\$1,050.00	\$7,055.75
10/25/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$1,216.00	\$-	\$8,271.75
11403	Thomas Higgins	Balance of October Salary	\$-	\$1,050.00	\$7,221.75
11405	J & S Janitorial Service	Cleaning - October	\$-	\$276.00	\$6,945.75
10/31/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$1,183.00	\$-	\$8,128.75
11406	On The Go Inc	Trash pick up - November	\$-	\$38.50	\$8,090.25
10/31/2016	Earned Interest	Accrued Earning Payment	\$1.90	\$-	\$8,092.15
General Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$58,879.07	\$57,483.60	\$8,092.15

PROTECT OUR CHURCH FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$10,841.25
			\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25
			\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25
Protect Our Church Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25

BENEVOLENT FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$535.00
10/1/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$50.00	\$-	\$585.00
10/1/2016	Deposit	Neighbors In Need	\$135.00	\$-	\$720.00
10/12/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$5.00	\$-	\$725.00
10/25/2016	Deposit	Strengthen The Church	\$300.00	\$-	\$1,025.00
10/31/2016	Deposit	Agape	\$5.00	\$-	\$1,030.00
			\$-	\$-	\$1,030.00
			\$-	\$-	\$1,030.00
			\$-	\$-	\$1,030.00
			\$-	\$-	\$1,030.00
Benevolent Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$495.00	\$-	\$1,030.00

BUILDING FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$(506.53)
10/1/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$25.00	\$-	\$(481.53)
10/12/2016	Deposit	Offering	\$5.00	\$-	\$(476.53)
			\$-	\$-	\$(476.53)
Building Fund Totals Oct 31, 2016:			\$30.00	\$-	\$(476.53)

MEMORIAL FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$21,028.24
10/30/2016	Check # 11364 - June	Adjustment - to Memorial Fund	\$-	\$2,199.00	\$18,829.24
			\$-	\$-	\$18,829.24
			\$-	\$-	\$18,829.24
			\$-	\$-	\$18,829.24
Memorial Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$-	\$2,199.00	\$18,829.24

INDIAN CAMP CEMETERY FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	\$-	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$4,285.70
10/12/2016	Interest Earned	Indian Camp CD	\$1.36	\$-	\$4,287.06
11401	Christopher Sadler	Lawn Care - Cemetary	\$-	\$100.00	\$4,187.06
			\$-	\$-	\$4,187.06
Indian Camp Cemetery Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$1.36	\$100.00	\$4,187.06

SCHOLARSHIP FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$896.85
			\$-	\$-	\$896.85
			\$-	\$-	\$896.85
Scholarship Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$-	\$-	\$896.85

PARKING LOT FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$755.14
			\$-	\$-	\$755.14
Parking Lot Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$-	\$-	\$755.14

MUSIC FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$319.30
			\$-	\$-	\$319.30
Music Fund Totals for Oct 31, 2016:			\$-	\$-	\$319.30

SUPER NOW CHECKING ACCOUNT TOTALS:			\$59,405.43	\$59,782.60	\$44,474.46
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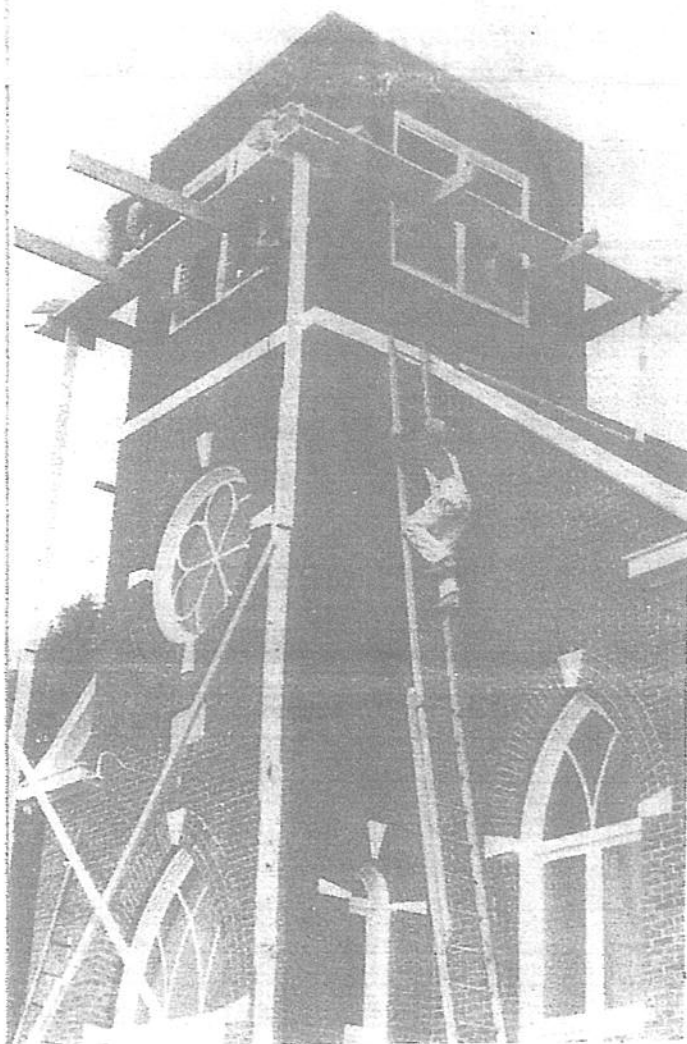
REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO DIED DURING THIS PAST YEAR

Jeremy Ebert	Born: 2/29/80	Died: 1/14/15
Jackie (Jack) Lee Jaspering	Born: 12/3/56	Died: 12/28/15
Judy Ann Flesch	Born: 7/10/34	Died: 4/14/16
Marilyn Benson	Born: 1/18/34	Died: 5/11/16
Robert Bote	Born: 11/3/51	Died: 6/23/16
Gene Bilyeu	Born: 5/19/21	Died: 7/4/16
Tom Bill	Born: 12/9/43	Died: 10/7/16

Friends of Immanuel (non-members)

Robert "Bob" Bierer	Born: 8/23/37	Died: 2/25/16
Goldie Hampton	Born: 11/29/19	Died: 9/3/16
Edgar C. "Bud" Helwig	Born: 8/11/34	Died: 8/4/16

The Warrenton Banner, Thursday, December 18, 1975,



Wright City Church Repair

Workmen have repaired the steeple at the United Church of Christ in Wright City. The imitation brick siding and several areas of crumbling concrete have been replaced with aluminum.



New Steeple In Wright City

The top was finally set in place for the Immanuel United Church of Christ in Wright City. The new 40 foot Steeple was set on the church on Tuesday, November 25.

Leroy Collins, of the B&L Steel Erection Co. of Elsberry, brought his 85 foot long telescoping crane to hoist the 1,500 pound steeple unit into place atop the 45 foot belfry. Neal Ordelheide called the signals from his perch atop the belfry as the steeple slowly ascended, as Dennis Brakensiek steadied it with the tether rope. Bill Flesch, Carl Meyer and Doc Barkey guided the steeple unit into place as it was lowered down over them.

Assisting from the ground was Frank Reich and Bill Groeper. The crew of volunteer spent the next few hours inside the bell tower anchoring the steeple firmly to the church.

