

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



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OFFICE PH. 636-745-3864

JANUARY 2018

Jan 7 EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Sermon: "Magi and Camels and Stars, Oh My!"

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-5, Matthew 2:1-12

Roland Niemann Greeter/Usher/Reader

Marvin Schubert Usher

Loretta Buescher Usher

Betty Zuhone Guestbook/Usher

Jan 14 Sermon: "Searching the Unsearchable"

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, John 1:43-51

Beverley Willoughby Reader/Greeter/Usher

Elmer Vahle Usher

Linda Martin Usher

Loretta Bierer Guestbook/Usher

Jan 21 Sermon: "God Leaves the Light ON"

Scripture: Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Mark 1:14-20

Terry Leap Greeter/Usher

Lois Meyer Reader/Usher

Amy Meyer Usher

Beverley Willoughby Guestbook/Usher

Jan 28 Sermon: "Stumbling Blocks Matter"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

Mary Sue Sitton Greeter/Usher

Mason Newcomb Reader/Usher

Peggy Sherman Usher

Karen Cox Guestbook/Usher

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT
NOVEMBER 2017

GENERAL FUND		
Offering	\$3781.11	\$3781.11
BENEVOLENT FUND		
Offering	\$ 55.00	
W.C. Food Pantry	105.00	\$ 160.00
BUILDING FUND		
Offering	\$ 25.00	
Donation-Billy&Margaret Lange	4489.18	
Estate		\$4514.18
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		\$8455.29

Some Words of Thanks

it was a delightful surprise to be remembered in special ways by folk at Immanuel UCC - West in the Christmas Season. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Women's Fellowship for their thoughtful gift. Also to various members of the church (you know who you are) who send or gave cards and those who gifted me in celebration of our Savior's birth. I appreciate greatly your thoughtfulness in this and all things.

Pastor Dianna Niemann-Harris

A special family in need requested their deep appreciation be expressed to the family that is Immanuel UCC in Wright City. When their unforeseen need was shared in worship Christmas Eve morning the response was incredible. We were able to provide a large box of non-perishable food, baby clothes from the Boutique for the 12 month old, two gifts for each adult and three for the wee one all wrapped and ready for them and \$250.00 which made it possible for the family to make their car payment due just after Christmas. As the young mother put it, "Who ever thought a transmission going out would bring us such love and care!" This family will be meeting with Pastor Dianna after the first of the year for help with completing applications for assistance and budgeting information to enable them to manage their resources. Please keep our "Christmas Mom" in prayer as she seeks employment compatible with hours the car is available for transportation.



Immanuel United Church of Christ – November 2017

Beginning Balance \$52,475.88

GENERAL FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$25,458.31
11/3/2017	GuideOne	ACH insurance premium		\$814.25	\$24,644.06
11/6/2017	Eden's Seminary	#11504 Rev. Higgins Memorial		\$1,010.00	\$23,634.06
11/7/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$1,744.13		\$25,378.19
11/8/2017	Centurylink	ACH telephone bill		\$183.11	\$25,195.08
11/8/2017	Dianna Harris	#11505 service 11/05		\$200.00	\$24,995.08
11/13/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$936.00		\$25,931.08
11/13/2017	Wright City	ACH water & sewer		\$23.89	\$25,907.19
11/14/2017	Ameren	ACH gas church		\$353.00	\$25,554.19
11/14/2017	Ameren	ACH electric fellowship hall		\$174.00	\$25,380.19
11/14/2017	Ameren	ACH electric church		\$238.00	\$25,142.19
11/14/2017	Dianna Harris	#11510 service 11/12		\$200.00	\$24,942.19
11/17/2017	Chris Sadler	#11511 church mowing x2		\$150.00	\$24,792.19
11/20/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$5,309.18		\$30,101.37
11/21/2017	Dianna Harris	#11512 service 11/19		\$200.00	\$29,901.37
11/29/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$465.98		\$30,367.35
11/30/2017	Deposit	Accrued Earning Payment	\$2.19		\$30,369.54
11/30/2017		Transferred to designated fund		\$4,674.18	\$25,695.36
General Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$8,457.48	\$8,220.43	\$25,695.36

PROTECT OUR CHURCH FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$10,841.25
					\$10,841.25
Protect Our Church Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25

BENEVOLENT FUND

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$938.00
11/7/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$50.00		\$988.00
11/10/2017	Missouri Mid South Conf	#11506 benevolent payout		\$813.00	\$175.00
11/13/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$5.00		\$180.00
11/14/2017	Agape	#11508 benevolent payout		\$5.00	\$175.00
11/14/2017	Wright City Nazarene Church	#11507 benevolent payout WC food		\$60.00	\$115.00
11/17/2017	American Red Cross	#11509 benevolent payout H Harvey		\$10.00	\$105.00
11/20/2017	Deposit	Offering WC Food Pantry	\$80.00		\$185.00
11/29/2017	Deposit	Offering WC Food Pantry	\$25.00		\$210.00
Benevolent Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$160.00	\$888.00	\$210.00

BUILDING FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$234.56
11/7/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$25.00		\$259.56
11/20/2017	Deposit	Offering	\$4,489.18		\$4,748.74
Building Fund Totals Nov 30, 2017:			\$4,514.18	\$-	\$4,748.74

MEMORIAL FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$6,947.00
					\$6,947.00
Memorial Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$-	\$6,947.00

INDIAN CAMP CEMETERY FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$4,485.47
11/17/2017	Christopher Sadler	lawn care 1x cemetery		\$50.00	\$4,435.47
Indian Camp Cemetery Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$50.00	\$4,435.47

SCHOLARSHIP FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$896.85
					\$896.85
Scholarship Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$-	\$896.85

PARKING LOT FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$2,255.14
					\$2,255.14
Parking Lot Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$-	\$2,255.14

MUSIC FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$319.30
					\$319.30
Music Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2017:			\$-	\$-	\$319.30

SUPER NOW CHECKING ACCOUNT TOTALS:			\$13,131.66	\$9,158.43	\$56,449.11
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COUNCIL MEETING – NOVEMBER 12, 2017

Roland called the meeting to order and Jackie lead us in prayer. In attendance: Roland Niemann, Mary Sue Sitton, Jackie Niernan, Lee Fast, Lavelle Requat, Beverley Willoughby, Darrell Schmidt and Kelvin Lashley.

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

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

General Treasurer's Report: Kelvin made the motion to approve the September and October reports as presented, Lee seconded, motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Rev. John Silea will lead us in worship in December and Christmas Eve Service and Rev. Dianna Niemann-Harris will lead us in worship in January 2018.

Building & Grounds: The Roger Niernan Family donated a new LDD light for the light outside of Fellowship Hall and Kim Fast donated her electrician Dave Mundwiller. Lee Fast and Karen Cox placed some D-Con in the Church basement.

Christian Workers: October attendance was 240 with an average of 48.

Evangelism and Stewardship: Around 75 people attended the Reinhold Niebuhr Story Sept. 29th. The DVD of his story is in the Church Office for anyone to borrow. Jackie is looking for people to light the advent candles. Jan. 21st, 2018 will be the Annual Meeting and Chili Cookoff.

Memorial: Opal Twiehaus and Arlayne Meyer's memorials of \$1,496.00 was given towards the purchase of the new carpet on the inside ramp and Fellowship Hall hallway.

Pastoral Relations: No suggestions in the suggestion box.

Christian Board: Nativity calendars for the children. Christmas program Dec. 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fellowship: Will meet in December

Evening Circle: For Christmas they will be decorating the Church Sanctuary Nov. 26th and taking it down January 7, 2018.

Men's Club: March 11th 2018 will be their annual Sausage Dinner.

New Business: Discussed leaving Christmas Eve Service at 9:00 p.m. Lee made the motion to donate the offering to Meals On Wheels, Beverley seconded, motion carried. Discussed Lent and decided we would have Ash Wednesday on February 14th 2018 and Maundy Thursday on March 29th, 2018. Checking with Rev. Silea about Wednesday night Lent Service and other options.

Old Business: The first Monday in December the Boy Scouts will start meeting in Fellowship Hall. Kelvin made the motion to add the money we receive from the Billy Lang Estate to the Building Fund, Jackie seconded, motion carried.

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

During Lent, we will have a soup and sandwich dinner before each Wednesday night service. Anyone who would like to volunteer to make soup or desserts please contact Jackie Niernan at 636-745-3096. Dinner will be at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall and the service will follow in the hall at 7 pm. If you can't make it for dinner, please come to the service.

Pastor Silea will be our minister throughout the Lenten season.

"Souper" Bowl Sunday

We are celebrating a different type of Super Bowl with our own "SOUPER" Bowl day. Bring in cans of soup that will be donated to Wright City Food Pantry. We need to continue to help out even after the holidays. Bring your cans of soup to church by Sunday, February 4th.



- ***Just a few notes.....DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER IS JANUARY 15***
- Pastor Dianna Niemann-Harris will minister the month of January
- Evening Circle will be taking down Christmas Decoration January 7th after church
- ANNUAL REPORTS DUE TO "MARGARET VIEHMANN" BY JANUARY 14TH
- Annual Meeting January 21st / 4th Annual Chili Cook off

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

********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.

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY 2018

<u>HAPPY</u>	Leonard Pauk 5	Scott McLaughlin 13	Bud Nissen 2
<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>	Loretta Bierer 5	Virginia Tomschin 13	Barb Requat 25
Brad & Beverley Willoughby 1	Billy Lee 7	Jackie Nierman 14	Jim Bueneman 25
Adam & Tiffany McClenning 14	Maria Diefenbacher 7	Phyllis, Fulton 14	Abby Dreyer 26
	John Hoeft 9	William Mikus 15	Lee Fast 26
Art & Margaret Viehmann 20	Alice M. Windmann 10	Cheryl Ann Jose 16	Madelyn Reelitz 26
	Don Zuhone 11	Rick Pettig 18	William Wehrman 28
Jack & Mary Groeper 27	Lillie Schroer 11	William Brockmeyer 17	Braden Engelage 29
Gary & Cheryl Kreuger 29	Mason Newcomb 12	Alexander Garcia 19	Robin Berg 29
<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	Tina Day 12	Sharyn Rugh 19	Mary Mikus 30
Dorothy Merlotti 2	Lisa Hueffmeier 13	William Groeper 19	Austin Jones 31
Mike Schriener 3	Sarah Flesch 13	Becky Reelitz 23	Mary Sue Sitton 31

Stewardship Moment - Can God See Your Faith?

When Jesus saw their faith... Luke 5:20

Are you ready for the new year? Do you have a resolution or two thought out to make this year better than 2017? The start of a new year has many of us thinking just that, I want it to be a better year, I want to reach certain goals or I want some things to be different.

Making the year better though may require some extra work or time on your part and you will have to adjust your time and mind set to make those changes happen. What about also adding faithful prayer to the list to help in making the year better?

When Jesus walked the earth, oftentimes right before He healed someone, the Bible says, "When He saw their faith..." So I ask you today, can God see your faith?

When God sees you doing everything you can to get well; when He sees you getting to work a little earlier because you really want that promotion; when He sees you bite your tongue to keep the peace in your house; when He sees you help others when you really need more help than they do; when God sees your faith, that's when extraordinary things will begin to happen. Faith opens the door for God to move. Your faith can help make some of those New Year resolutions more possible. So, demonstrate your faith today and watch the hand of God move in every area of your life!

President	Roland Niemann	636-745-2547
Vice President	Darrell Schmidt	636-384-0491
Secretary	Mary Sue Sitton	636-673-2265
Financial Secretary	Lavelle Requat	636-673-2344
General Treasurer	Beverley Willoughby	636-384-6693
Christian Worker	Lee Fast	314-972-4882
Evangelism/Stewardship	Jackie Nierman	636-497-6220
Memorial	Terry Leap	636-384-0410
Pastorial Relations	Kelvin Lashley	636-279-0763



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

PASTORIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Council Rep. Kelvin Lashley, Karen Cox, Aaron Wilber, Judy Engelage

*Pastor Relations – If anyone would be in need of pastoral visit, please contact council president Roland Niemann at 636-745-2547 and he will put you in touch with Pastor Silea or Pastor Niemann-Harris. Members please know that they are also available at this time to minister for baptisms, weddings or funerals until we are able to get another minister.

4th Annual Chili Cook Off at Immanuel UCC

Do you have a special chili recipe? If so, you need to enter our 4th annual Chili Cookoff on Sunday, January 21. Bring in your special chili, preferably in a crockpot, to Fellowship hall by 9:30 am on the morning of the 21st. Chili will then be judged by our volunteer expert chili tasters. After the annual meeting that day, everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall to enjoy the variety of chili's and hotdogs. 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 can come join in the fun and fellowship.

The challenge is on to have lots of different chili's in the contest. Chili's are judged on spice factor, thickness as well as taste! Prizes will be awarded including the presentation of the traveling first-place golden soup ladle. Last year's winner was Lavelle Requat. The more entries, the more fun!

Stewardship:

The council has decided to begin a new stewardship moment time in 2018. Plans are to seek a volunteer for the first Sunday of the month who would like to stand up just before we have offering during the service and give a reflection of why you feel Immanuel UCC is important to you, or your family or the community. What is it about having our church in this community that you feel is uplifting or doing good. If you are a bashful person

and not comfortable in speaking in front of people, you can write it down and we will have someone read it for you. If you are interested in participating in this program, contact Jackie Nierman at 636-745-3096.

My Prayer Hand

My thumb is closest to my heart; so pray first for those who are closest to you.

The second finger is used for pointing; pray for those who point you toward the truth, like your teachers, minister, and those who inspire you.

The third finger is the tallest; let it stand for the leaders, both in government and in your Church.

The fourth finger is the weakest; let it stand for those in trouble, pain, injured or weak.

The little finger is the smallest; let it stand for those who are unnoticed, poor, abused or deprived.

Evening and morning and at noon will I pray and cry aloud; and He shall hear my voice.

Psalms 55:17

Pastor Relations:

The council is working with the conference on the steps required to get a pastor for Immanuel UCC. The council has gone through the first step by completing the paperwork from the conference to officially post Immanuel UCC's request for an Intentional Interim pastor. This person will work part time with us a continuous pastor until a permanent part time pastor can be found. A search committee will be formed and we will continue to move forward. Until the Intentional interim pastor is hired, Pastor John Silea and Pastor Dianna Niemann-Harris will continue to be supply pastors for us filling in as needed. We are grateful to have had both of these wonderful ministers tending to us during this transition time. A huge thank you to them both!