

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

January 2015

Jan 4 Sermon: "For Everyone"
Scriptures: Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12
Beverley Willoughby Greeter/Usher
Inez Trump Reader/Usher
Elmer Vahle Usher
Betty Zuhone Guestbook/Usher

Jan 11 Sermon: "One of Us"
Scripture: Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11
Mary Sue Sitton Greeter/Usher
Whitney Cox Reader/Usher
Loretta Buescher Usher
Loretta Bierer Guestbook/Usher

Jan 18 Sermon: "Come & See"

Scriptures: I Samuel 3:1-10, John 1:43-51

Terry Leap	Greeter/Usher
Velma LaFave	Usher
Mildred Groeper	Reader/Usher
Karen Cox	Guestbook/Usher

Jan 25 Sermon: "When God Says Yes!"

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

Jackie Niernan	Reader/Greeter/Usher
Roger Niernan	Usher
Phyllis Gentry	Usher
Judy Engelage	Guestbook/Usher

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.



FROM THE PASTOR:

Happy New Year to everyone. In January I am going to offer a four week Bible study on Wednesdays. I will offer it twice, so that those you who do not want to get out at night can come from 1:00 p.m. until 2:30.m. and then in the evening I will offer the same study from 6:30 pm until 8:00 p.m.

The first day, January 7, I will offer some things I think are helpful to know in understanding the Bible. The next Wednesday we will study the scriptures which will be read on Sundays and hopefully aide us with the sermons. It is called the Lectionary Study.

I realize that not everyone will be interested in these studies, but hopefully some will enjoy them. You are welcome to invite friends to these Bible studies even though they are not members of Immanuel.

Peace to all of you. Pastor Tom

Stewardship Moment for January - Give and it will be given back to you

"Give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

Luke 6:38

Notice how this verse starts, "Give, and it will be given to you". That's because your giving sets the blessing of God into motion in your life. Giving is like a seed. When you plant an apple seed, it doesn't just grow a single fruit. That one seed grows into a tree that produces an abundance of apples! That's what happens when you obey God in your giving. You receive an abundant harvest in return.

Is there something the Lord is telling you to give today? It could be financial, material or even your talents and service to others. What do you have in your hand that you can use to bless someone else? Make a New Year's resolution today to set the blessing of God into motion in your life. Plant that seed of giving and it will come back to you!

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 18

Immanuel's annual meeting will be after church service on January 18. Join us after the meeting for lunch and an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a Chili Cook Off and Game Day in the basement of Fellowship Hall! Members are asked to bring in a pot of chili using their favorite recipe. (Bring chili preferably in a crock-pot so that it will stay hot until after church).

Chili will be judged from 9:30 am - 10:00 am that morning. Prizes will be awarded at lunch time. All members will then enjoy the different chili's and will vote on a crowd favorite. Hot dogs and potato soup will be provided for those who are not chili eaters.

After lunch, we will do a group game and then break into smaller groups to enjoy playing cards and other fun games. Prizes to be awarded!

This event is for young and old so don't feel like you can't attend. Come join in the fun and fellowship!

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2014

GENERAL FUND		
Offering	\$4680.24	
Bulletin sponsor	15.00	
Donation-Senior Citizens	25.00	
Building use F.H.	50.00	
Member donation	58.00	
Warren County--polling	50.00	
		\$4878.24
BENEVOLENT FUND		
Offering	\$ 65.00	
Neighbors in Need	8.00	
For Food Pantry	255.00	
		\$ 328.00
BUILDING FUND		
Offering	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
		\$5236.24

- ***Just a few notes.....***
- ***Annual Reports due as soon as you can get them to Margaret Viehmann***
- Thursday, January 1 — ***“HAPPY 2015”***
- Sunday, January 18 — **Annual Congregational** meeting after church. CHILI COOK OFF AFTER MEETING, LOOK FOR INFO ON ANOTHER PAGE
- Tuesday, January 20 — Newsletter Items Due for February
- Sunday, March 8 — SAVE THE DATE **SAUSAGE DINNER**
-

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.

*****A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

RELATIONS COMMITTEE***

The Pastor relations committee continues to hear lots of good feedback from members about our church services.

We are glad to see so many new people at our services. Please feel free to share any suggestions to committee members about anything you would like to see or hear in the service. We will be glad to discuss with Pastor Tom new thoughts and ideas. Committee members are Bud Nissen, Marvin Schubert, Karen Cox or Kathy Hintz.

We are on the WEB

Look for us at “iucc.weebly.com”

Please pass on this website to others who may not receive a newsletter, all of the past several months of newsletters & other information is posted.

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.

Immanuel United Church of Christ – November 2014

Beginning Balance						\$18,358.19
GENERAL FUND						
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance	
	Beginning Balance				\$ (5,647.97)	
11/1/2014	Interest earned	Immanuel CD	\$12.44	\$-	\$(5,635.53)	
11/4/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$1,354.00	\$-	\$(4,281.53)	
ACH 11/4	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$381.00	\$(4,662.53)	
ACH 11/4	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$124.73	\$(4,787.26)	
ACH 11/4	Ameren	Utilities	\$-	\$154.00	\$(4,941.26)	
11186	Centurylink	phone bill	\$-	\$179.66	\$(5,120.92)	
11187	Bulletin Services	Dec thru Jan	\$-	\$72.77	\$(5,193.69)	
11185	Elisabeth Thompson	maintenance supplies	\$-	\$49.94	\$(5,243.63)	
11/12/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$1,231.99	\$-	\$(4,011.64)	
ACH 11/12	Wright City	Water bill	\$-	\$18.82	\$(4,030.46)	
11188	Thomas Higgins	Mileage - Oct	\$-	\$468.18	\$(4,498.64)	
11184	Thomas Higgins	1/2 of Nov salary	\$-	\$750.00	\$(5,248.64)	
11/18/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$753.00	\$-	\$(4,495.64)	
11/25/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$971.00	\$-	\$(3,524.64)	
11/30/2014	Interest earned	accrued earning payment	\$0.80	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
			\$-	\$-	\$(3,523.84)	
General Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$4,323.23	\$2,199.10	\$(3,523.84)	

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 Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25

BENEVOLENT FUND	
1970	1971
1972	1973
1974	1975
1976	1977
1978	1979
1980	1981
1982	1983
1984	1985
1986	1987
1988	1989
1990	1991
1992	1993
1994	1995
1996	1997
1998	1999
2000	2001
2002	2003
2004	2005
2006	2007
2008	2009
2010	2011
2012	2013
2014	2015
2016	2017
2018	2019
2020	2021
2022	2023
2024	2025
2026	2027
2028	2029
2030	2031
2032	2033
2034	2035
2036	2037
2038	2039
2040	2041
2042	2043
2044	2045
2046	2047
2048	2049
2050	2051
2052	2053
2054	2055
2056	2057
2058	2059
2060	2061
2062	2063
2064	2065
2066	2067
2068	2069
2070	2071
2072	2073
2074	2075
2076	2077
2078	2079
2080	2081
2082	2083
2084	2085
2086	2087
2088	2089
2090	2091
2092	2093
2094	2095
2096	2097
2098	2099
2100	2101
2102	2103
2104	2105
2106	2107
2108	2109
2110	2111
2112	2113
2114	2115
2116	2117
2118	2119
2120	2121
2122	2123
2124	2125
2126	2127
2128	2129
2130	2131
2132	2133
2134	2135
2136	2137
2138	2139
2140	2141
2142	2143
2144	2145
2146	2147
2148	2149
2150	2151
2152	2153
2154	2155
2156	2157
2158	2159
2160	2161
2162	2163
2164	2165
2166	2167
2168	2169
2170	2171
2172	2173
2174	2175
2176	2177
2178	2179
2180	2181
2182	2183
2184	2185
2186	2187
2188	2189
2190	2191
2192	2193
2194	2195
2196	2197
2198	2199
2200	2201
2202	2203
2204	2205
2206	2207
2208	2209
2210	2211
2212	2213
2214	2215
2216	2217
2218	2219
2220	2221
2222	2223
2224	2225
2226	2227
2228	2229
2230	2231
2232	2233
2234	2235
2236	2237
2238	2239
2240	2241
2242	2243
2244	2245
2246	2247
2248	2249
2250	2251
2252	2253
2254	2255
2256	2257
2258	2259
2260	2261
2262	2263
2264	2265
2266	2267
2268	2269
22	

ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$569.00
11/4/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$50.00	\$-	\$619.00
11/12/2014	Deposit	Offering - food pantry	\$200.00	\$-	\$819.00
11/18/2014	Deposit	Offering - neighbors in need	\$5.00	\$-	\$824.00
11/25/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$10.00	\$-	\$834.00
11/25/2014	Deposit	Offering - food pantry	\$55.00	\$-	\$889.00
			\$-	\$-	\$889.00
			\$-	\$-	\$889.00
			\$-	\$-	\$889.00
			\$-	\$-	\$889.00
Benevolent Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$320.00	\$-	\$889.00

BUILDING FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$1,536.10
11/4/2014	Deposit	Offering	\$25.00	\$-	\$1,561.10
			\$-	\$-	\$1,561.10
			\$-	\$-	\$1,561.10
Building Fund Totals Nov 30, 2014:			\$25.00	\$-	\$1,561.10

MEMORIAL FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$5,285.00
			\$-	\$-	\$5,285.00
			\$-	\$-	\$5,285.00
Memorial Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$5,285.00

INDIAN CAMP CEMETERY FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	\$-	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$5,818.85
			\$-	\$-	\$5,818.85
			\$-	\$-	\$5,818.85
			\$-	\$-	\$5,818.85
Indian Camp Cemetery Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$5,818.85

SCHOLARSHIP FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$401.85
			\$-	\$-	\$401.85
			\$-	\$-	\$401.85
Scholarship Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$401.85

PARKING LOT FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$1,964.67
			\$-	\$-	\$1,964.67
Parking Lot Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$1,964.67

MUSIC FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$505.05
			\$-	\$-	\$505.05
Music Fund Totals for Nov 30, 2014:			\$-	\$-	\$505.05

SUPER NOW CHECKING ACCOUNT TOTALS:			\$4,668.23	\$2,199.10	\$20,827.32
------------------------------------	--	--	------------	------------	-------------

CHRISTMAS LAUGHTER

*This is the melody of Christmas!
Wide-eyed, sleighbell laughter
of tiny ones experiencing the bright surprises;
Whisper-laughter of parents
exchanging their knowing glances;
Tear-dimmed chuckles
of reminiscence;
Freshets of family-get-together laughter;
Ties-that-bind laughter
of the church family;
Joy-in-heaven laughter
of a great company of angels
watching the first shepherd-visitors
making their way to a manger.*

—Dr. John J. Walker
Post, TX

Fr. John Miller recalls that when he was fresh out of seminary and on his first assignment, he was asked to read Bishop Peter Bartholome's letter of blessing to the congregation at a Christmas Day mass at St. John Cantius Church in St. Cloud, MN.

He dutifully began to read the bishop's letter: "I wish to extend to all of you the joys and blessings of the Christmas season..." But when he came to the closing, "Sincerely yours in Christ, Peter W. Bartholome, Bishop of St. Cloud," he read instead, "Sincerely yours in Christ, Peanut Butter Bartholome..."

Peals of laughter came from the pews. "I blew it," says Fr. Miller.

—via Joseph Young
Saint Cloud (MN) Visitor

When the Bishop of Chester, England, declared that there should be a religious message on Christmas stamps, *Punch* magazine suggested "Lord deliver us" as an appropriate message."

The late Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York once accompanied comedian Bob Hope on a Christmas trip to Vietnam, where Hope was to entertain American troops. Hope and his wife, Dolores, who is Catholic, went to a mass celebrated by the cardinal.

Hope fell asleep during the mass. Later, the cardinal told Hope that he had also fallen asleep when he once caught the comedian's act in a New York theater.

IN DEFENSE OF SANTA CLAUS

"It's not Santa Claus' fault that people forget the Infant Jesus. Why does the world love Santa Claus?"

"First of all, he's a joyous individual. People are attracted to joyous individuals as filings are attracted to a magnet. Next, Santa Claus is interested in making others happy. He increases the happy moments in the life of everyone he meets. He loves his work; he gets fun out of his job.

"He is childlike, simple, humble, sincere, and forgiving. Finally, he is a giver. His philosophy is to give himself away in service. He is a friend to everyone. He smiles.

"Perhaps you and I could attain greater happiness if we emulated Santa Claus a little more, for his way is the way of the Infant Jesus also."

—Msgr. Joseph P. Dooley
Martins Creek, PA

There are three periods in a person's life:

- 1) When you believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) When you don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) When you *are* Santa Claus.

—Rev. James A. Simpson

A Sunday school teacher asked a little boy: "Bobby, do you believe in the devil?"

"No," the boy said. "He's just like Santa Claus. I think it's my Daddy."