

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

November 2015

Nov 1 Sermon: "We Are the Church!"

Scriptures: Psalm 24, Revelations 21:1-6a,
 John 11:32-44

ALL SAINTS DAY—HOLY COMMUNION

Chad Thompson	Greeter/Usher
Mary Sue Sitton	Usher
Alice Windmann	Usher
Lee Fast	Reader/Guestbook/Usher

Nov 8 Sermon: "Summed Up for Us"

Scripture: Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:28-34

VETERANS OBSERVANCE

Beverley Willoughby	Greeter/Usher
Margaret & Richard Ramey	Ushers
Lois Meyer	Reader/Guestbook/Usher

Nov 15 Sermon: "Challenge One Another"

Scriptures: Hebrews 10:11-25, Mark 13:1-8

Mary Sue Sitton	Greeter/Usher
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Aaron Wilber	Usher/Reader
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Aimee Wilber	Usher
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Terry Leap	Guestbook/Usher
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Nov 22 Sermon: "What is Truth?" INGATHERING

Scriptures: Revelations 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37

INSTALLATION OF REV. HIGGINS

Lee Fast	Greeter/Usher
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Judy & Darrell Engelage	Ushers
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Jackie Nierman	Reader/Guestbook/Usher
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Nov 29 Sermon: "Sign of Things to Come"

Scripture: I Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

First Sunday of Advent & Friendship Sunday

Terry Leap	Greeter/Usher
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Roland Niemann	Reader/Usher
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Elmer Vahle	Usher
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Lavelle Requat	Guestbook/Usher
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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.....**

- November 1– **All Saints Day**. Recognition of members who have passed in the last year. A Candle lighting service will be held. We will also have a Baptism & Communion.
- November 8 – **Veterans Day Celebration** . We will have a special time of recognition for those past & present who served our country. God Bless America! To be a veteran it took courage, commitment, sacrifice, patriotism, integrity and pride in being a citizen of the United States. Please invite someone you know who is a Veteran to our worship service.
- November 22 – **Stewardship Sunday**. On that day we ask all members to consider giving "extra" as a way of showing gratitude for all the extra blessings God has bestowed upon you. You can either bring in foods that will be donated to Agape Food Pantry or place an extra donation in the offering or mail to the church. Extra offering may be designated to Agape, Benevolent Fund or any other fund if so desired. Let's show our thanks in November by sharing with others. **Evening Circle**, will decorate the sanctuary for Advent after the morning worship service. We invite anyone who is able to join in the fun!
- November 29 – **Friendship Day**. All members are encouraged to bring a friend or call another member who hasn't been to church in a while to our service. The church council will sponsor a soup and sandwich lunch after the services. They will provide the soup & sandwiches. Members may bring a dessert to share but not required. More important to bring a friend! Come and enjoy the fellowship! **First Sunday in Advent**. During Advent season, we will be looking for volunteers each week to light the advent candles and read the advent litany. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jackie Nierman at 636-745-3096.

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***

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. We truly appreciate all Pastor Tom does at Immanuel. His spiritual guidance, leadership, time and dedication are very much appreciated.

The church council presented him with a gift certificate and some of the children colored pictures for his office. Anyone who would like to can send him a card to the church address.

We appreciate hearing all thoughts.

Share your thoughts with committee members Bud Nissen, Karen Cox or Marvin Schubert.

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.



FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Friends:

There has been so much happening that I forgot to write my newsletter articles! Forgive me Debbie.

Looking at the calendar for November and December there is much to anticipate and celebrate. On November 1 we will observe many parts of our church's faith, Communion, Baptism, and All-Saints Day. I promise a short sermon!

On November 22, I will officially be installed as your pastor! It has been a long time in coming, but all the papers are in and approved and we can enter into this covenant as congregation and pastor. From my point

of view, God has definitely had a hand in bringing us together. I feel honored to become one of many pastors who have served Immanuel United Church of Christ in Wright City.

We are still discovering where the future will take us, where God is going to take us! We must dream and plan together so that future leadership will emerge to go forward in a positive way leading Immanuel to be a vital and faith filled beacon of hope for community. I ask you now to start thinking of what we need to do for the future and also how we can best achieve those goals.

May God guide and bless us as we journey together.

In Christian Love, Pastor Tom

Council Meeting – August 09, 2015

Beverley called the meeting to order with Rev. Higgins leading us in prayer.

In attendance: Beverley Willoughby, Darrell Schmidt, Lee Fast, Lavelle Requat, Jackie Nierman, Bud Nissen, Mary Sue Sitton and Rev. Higgins.

Secretary's Report: Lee made the motion to approve as presented. Lavelle seconded. Motion carried.

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

General Treasurer's Report: Darrell made the motion to approve as presented. Lee seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Rev Higgins asked if we had any rules on open communion. He would like to take Vacation, Sept. 10-14. Gene and Imogene Bilyeu would like to transfer their membership to Immanuel UCC Wright City. Christmas Eve service will be 7:00 P.M. same as last year. He would like to set up a meeting with Edward Jones for August 19 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss some investments for the Church.

Building & Grounds: Need to check the A/C filters and some light bulbs. 4-H to paint the fence. Getting bids to remove 3 trees and their stumps. One bid was for \$3,100.00. Church roof leaking so checking for hail

damage. Checking the thermostats as the electric budget billing has gone from \$166.00 to \$283.00. The dusk to dawn light is working.

Christian Workers: July attendance was 262 with an average of 66.

Evangelism and Stewardship: Church's 135 year anniversary and confirmation reunion Sept. 27. Anyone wanting to join the choir for that day are welcome. Still trying to stop the old Sunday Bulletins.

Memorial: Have not met yet.

Pastoral Relations: Happy with Rev. Higgins serving us.

Christian Board: Swimming Aug. 16 after Church. 11 kids attended VBS. Rally Day Sept. 13, 2015.

Evening Circle: Boutique building closed for change over from summer to winter in Sept.

New Business: Need to get bids for snow removal and looking at lawn service for next year. Need to get bids for a new roof on the Church if it has hail damage.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned with everyone joining hands and saying the Lord's Prayer.

A lot of compliments were heard about our 135th anniversary service. Mildred did a super job in getting a choir together and all the choir members did a wonderful job. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Last Sunday our MO State Representative, Bryan Spencer presented the church with a plaque from the Missouri House of Representatives. It was a Resolution honoring our church for our 135th Anniversary and our 135 years of service.

Church council is now accepting bids for snow removal for this winter. If anyone is interested in submitting a bid, please contact Darrell Schmidt or Beverley Willoughby.

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

November

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY

Jason & Angela Case 1
Chad & Elisabeth Thompson 5
Mary Sue & Wayne Sitton 18
David & Karen Cox 20
Aaron & Aimee Wilber 21

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Roland Niemann 1

Brenda Wilkins 3	Tammy Caloroso 20
Opal Twiehaus 4	Earl Requat 21
Tony Gironde 7	Gloria Bruno 22
Angela Jones 9	Terry Fingers 24
Pat Gerdeman 12	Blake Meyer 26
Crystal Johnson 13	Gerri Smith 28
Stacie Clemons 13	Joshua Rosen 28
Joseph Pauk 14	Terri Baker 28
Nancy Gatewood 16	George Jaeger 29
Elmer Vahle 17	

Stewardship Moment – taken from article written by Joel Osteen “*Giving Back to God*”

“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s. It is holy to the Lord.”

(Leviticus 27:30, NKJV)

Everything we have has been given to us by God. He entrusts us with His resources and wants us to be good stewards of what we have. In scripture, Jesus talks about some men who were entrusted with some resources. They all had different amounts but they were supposed to be faithful and increase what they had. How do we increase what we have? By sowing, by giving, by being faithful and obedient to Him. Just like planting a seed in the natural yields a harvest of increase, when you sow finances to God’s work, you’ll receive an abundant harvest in return.

Remember, God wants to bless you. He wants to increase you. When you give, when you sow, when you honor Him with your first fruits, that’s when you’ll see the windows of Heaven open. That’s when you’ll see His hand of provision and blessing in your life. Give back to God, be a faithful steward, and He will give back to you!

CHRISTMAS INFORMATION!

POINSETTIAS will be placed on the altar area during Advent. Poinsettias may be purchased in memory or honor of loved ones. They may be purchased at a cost of \$6.00 each. Please contact Evening Circle member Betty Zuhone at 636-745-3434 to place your order.

The Choral Arts group will be performing at Immanuel UCC on December 11, time announced at a later date.

Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 20 during the worship service. Light lunch served after church. Christmas Caroling for our shut-ins or anyone else to follow. Please contact Karen Cox at 636-384-0539, if you want the Carolers to come by your residence.

Immanuel United Church of Christ – Sept 2015

	Beginning Balance	\$23,479.46
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		GENERAL FUND	
12			

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General Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:	\$5,256.34	\$3,477.58	\$3,943.56
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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 Sept 30, 2015:	\$-	\$-	\$10,841.25
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Benevolent Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:	\$75.00	\$-	\$345.00
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BUILDING FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				
9/8/2015	Deposit	Offering	\$25.00		\$1,551.00
9/15/2015	Deposit	Offering	\$5.00	\$-	\$1,576.00
9/28/2015	Deposit	Offering	\$10.00	\$-	\$1,581.00
Building Fund Totals Sept 30, 2015:			\$40.00	\$-	\$1,591.00

MEMORIAL FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$6,895.00
			\$-	\$-	\$6,895.00
			\$-	\$-	\$6,895.00
Memorial Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:			\$-	\$-	\$6,895.00

INDIAN CAMP CEMETERY FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	\$-	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$5,837.72
9/18/2015	Interest earned	Indian Camp CD	\$3.41	\$-	\$5,841.13
9/25/2015	Interest earned	Indian Camp CD	\$1.13	\$-	\$5,842.26
			\$-	\$-	\$5,842.26
Indian Camp Cemetery Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:			\$4.54	\$-	\$5,842.26

SCHOLARSHIP FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$401.85
			\$-	\$-	\$401.85
			\$-	\$-	\$401.85
Scholarship Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:			\$-	\$-	\$401.85

PARKING LOT FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$(2,020.33)
9/15/2015	Deposit	Offering	\$1,925.47	\$-	\$(94.86)
Parking Lot Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:			\$1,925.47	\$-	\$(94.86)

MUSIC FUND					
ID	Recipient	Description	Received	Disbursed	Balance
	Beginning Balance				\$505.05
			\$-	\$-	\$505.05
Music Fund Totals for Sept 30, 2015:			\$-	\$-	\$505.05

SUPER NOW CHECKING ACCOUNT TOTALS:			\$7,301.35	\$3,477.58	\$27,303.23
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Dentist's Hymn.....Crown Him with Many Crowns
 Weatherman's Hymn.....There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
 Contractor's Hymn.....The Church's One Foundation
 The Tailor's Hymn.....Holy, Holy, Holy
 The Golfer's Hymn.....There's a Green Hill Far Away
 The Politician's Hymn.....Standing on the Promises
 Optometrist's Hymn.....Open My Eyes That I Might See

The IRS Agent's Hymn.....I Surrender All
 The Gossip's Hymn.....Pass It On
 The Electrician's Hymn.....Send the Light
 The Shopper's Hymn.....Sweet Bye and Bye
 The Realtor's Hymn.....I've got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop
 The Massage Therapists Hymn...He Touched Me
 The Doctor's Hymn.....The Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway here are a few more hymns

~45 mph..... God Will Take Care of You
 ~65 mph..... Nearer My God To Thee
 ~85 mph..... This World Is Not My Home
 ~95 mph..... Lord, I'm Coming Home
 ~100 mph..... Precious Memories

Lord, give me a sense of humor,
 Give me the grace to see a joke,
 To get some humor out of life,
 And pass it on to other folk.

Have a nice day

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2015

GENERAL FUND		
Offering		
Initial offering	\$4806.00	
Interest-First State Community	4.00	
AA July--Dec.	113.42	
Building Use	150.00	
	100.00	
		\$5173.42
BENEVOLENT FUND		
Offering	\$ 75.00	
		\$ 75.00
BUILDING FUND		
Offering	\$ 40.00	
		\$ 40.00
PARKING LOT FUND		
Donation--Member	\$1925.47	
		\$1925.47
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		\$7213.89

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Capsule Sermons

There aren't any bad days, some are just better than others.

Many things are opened by mistake, but none so frequently as the mouth.

Keep your mind clean; change it occasionally.

Just because you are moving swiftly, it doesn't mean you are going anywhere.

If you blow your own horn people will be quick to get out of your way.

Many people who give admirable advice are totally incapable of taking it.

Always do right; this will gratify some people and astonish the rest.

Life's heaviest burden is not having anything to carry.

When you flee temptation, be sure you don't leave a forwarding address.

There is nothing that makes a man more self-satisfied than a poor memory.

Life is 10 percent what happens to us and 90 percent how we respond.

There is no tranquilizer in the world more effective than a few kind words.

Remember when you are arguing with a fool, he is doing the same.