

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 2017

Nov 5 Remembrance/All Saints Sunday

Psalm 43 Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon: **"Humbly Remembering"**

Roland Niemann Greeter/Usher

Betty Zuhone Reader/Usher

Lee Fast Usher

Karen Cox Guestbook/Usher

Nov 12 Veterans Day Remembrance

Sermon: **"Ready, Set, Wait"**

Solomon 6:17-20 Matthew 25:1-13

Beverley Willoughby Reader/Greeter/Usher

Mason Newcomb Usher

Darrell Engelage Usher

Judy Engelage Guestbook/Usher

Nov 19 Psalm 90:1-8 Matthew 25:14-20

Sermon: **"Use it or Use it!"**

Mary Sue Sitton Greeter/Usher

Mildred Groeper Reader

Lee Fast & Abby Rosemann Usher

Terry Leap Guestbook/Usher

Nov 26 Thanksgiving Sunday

Psalm 100 Matthew 25:31-36

Sermon: **"Singing a New Song"**

Terry Leap Greeter/Usher

Todd Bill Reader/Usher

Alice Windmann Usher

Lee Fast Guestbook/Usher

- ***Just a few notes.....DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER IS NOVEMBER 15***
- All of Nov Pastor Dianna Niemann-Harris will be serving as our pastor
- All of Dec Pastor John Silea will be serving as our pastor
- All Saints Sunday 11/5
- Veterans Day Service 11/12 (don't forget to bring in a special military memento item for display table)
- Stewardship Sunday 11/19

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: dendebymeyer@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 Niernan & Beverley Willoughby are the administrators of this sight. You can send info to these people to put on our page.

Gateway Harmonica Club in Veterans Day Concert



**Saturday—November 11, 2017
6:00 pm
Wright City Church
of the Nazarene**

The Gateway Harmonica Club was organized in 1987 for the purpose of preserving and advancing the playing of harmonica music in the Greater St. Louis, Missouri (USA) area. In the period since its founding, the club has provided not only fellowship, learning and enjoyment for its members, but also a source of entertainment and cheer for audiences both young and old. Performances by the Gateway Harmonica Club have been warmly received in a variety of locales, from nursing homes to juvenile institutions, from social gatherings to civic celebrations. They have appeared as guest artists with Richard Hayman and the St. Louis Symphony Pops Orchestra, have been featured performers at the Sheldon Concert Hall and have played the National Anthem for the St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium.

A free will offering will be taken at the concert.



Wright City Community Food Pantry

The Wright City Community Food Pantry focuses on helping those in the Wright City area. Your giving will help people living in these areas. We are simply neighbors helping neighbors. Here are ways you can help.

Thanksgiving Baskets/Christmas Food Baskets

- Your group can provide the entire family basket. On the second page is a list of items needed. ***How many families can your group feed?***
- By providing any part of the meal or other canned food items. We'll make sure all the items get to the appropriate families.
- Monetary donations – we'll do the shopping for you! The cost is around \$50 per basket. Checks may be made out to the Church of the Nazarene. Please put Community Thanksgiving or Community Christmas in the memo section depending on which you are giving toward.

Your donations can be dropped off at Farmers Super Market or the Church of the Nazarene in Wright City. We'll even come pick them up if you like! We would appreciate having all donations in for Thanksgiving meals by Nov. 17th. Donations for Christmas meals begin Nov. 27th and are due by Dec. 15th.

Adopt a family for Christmas

We have needy Wright City families who desire help with children's Christmas presents under the tree. We will help you adopt a family that matches the resources you can provide. A list of suggestions will be given with clothes/toys/needs so you can purchase! You can also give a financial gift and we will do the shopping for you. This is a great option for families, churches, businesses, or your office group to make a difference in a child's life! Purchases are due to Pastor Joe or Cheryl Lambright by December 15th.

If your group can assist in Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas baskets, or adopting a family for Christmas contact Pastor Joe Purl (636.295.0540; joeandkimpurl@gmail.com) or Cheryl Lambright (636.698.8899; cherlamb06@gmail.com). Please call or email if you have questions, we'd love to talk to you!

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

10-12 lb Turkey
1 box stuffing
Canned gravy
2 cans green beans
2 cans corn
12 dinner rolls
1 pound butter or margarine
Canned cranberry sauce
Potatoes
Pie

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS CONTINUED ON ANOTHER PAGE

COUNCIL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

Roland called the meeting to order and lead us in prayer.
in attendance: Roland Niemann, Beverley Willoughby, Jackie Niernan, Lavelle Requat, Terry Leap, Mary Sue Sifton, Lee Fast & Darrell Schmidt.

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

Financial Secretary's Report: Beverley made the motion to approve the report as presented, Lee seconded, motion carried. Lavelle reported that we had received \$940.00 for Rev. Higgins Memorial.

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

Pastor's Report: Discussed if we should contact the Conference about forming a search committee for a new minister. Beverley made the motion to have a special congregational meeting to discuss paying for a full time or part time minister, Terry seconded, motion carried. Lee made the motion to pay Rev. Dianna Niemann-Harris and Rev. John Silea each \$100.00 for Rev. Higgins Memorial Service Sept. 10th, Darrell seconded, motion carried. We received a Thank You from Rev. Dianna Niemann-Harris for her Love Gift, The Wright City Church of the Nazarene and the SunRise United Methodist Church in Wright City both sent Immanuel their condolences for Rev. Higgins death.

Building & Grounds: Darrell got a bid for tinting the 6 outside doors in Fellowship Hall for \$525.00. After some discussion we decided to discuss it more at our October meeting. We had three (3) bids for carpet in the ramp and Fellowship Hall hallway (American Oasis \$2564.00, Creative Systems \$3621.00 and Kaminski's \$2,800.00). Lavelle made the motion to accept the American Oasis bid, Beverley seconded, motion carried.

Christian Workers: August attendance was 278 with an average of 70.

Evangelism and Stewardship: We received a Thank You note from the Wright City School District for our Back to School food drive. October 15th is the Cemetery Walk and they will be using the Fellowship Hall basement. October 29th is the Reinhold Niebuhr Story and Reformation Sunday so wear your Red. Nov. 5th is All Saints Sunday and Nov. 12th will be Veterans Day. Choral Arts will perform at Immanuel on December 17th at 3:00 p.m..

Memorial: Meeting October 1st at 10:00 a.m.

Pastoral Relations: No Report

Christian Board: All Church Halloween Party Oct. 22nd at 3:00 p.m. at the Meyer Farm. Christmas Program will be Wednesday, Dec. 20th at 7:00 p.m. There will be no Confirmation this year.

Evening Circle: The Evening Circle members will provide the food for their guest day lunch.

Men's Club: 2nd Sunday in March will be the Sausage Dinner.

Beverly, Darrell and Jackie's 3 year term on the Church Council will be up in 2017. Beverley has agreed to run again so we will need 2 new council members.

Need to ask Mitchell Turpin who had the snow removal for the Church last year if he plans to do it again this year for the same price.

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

.Thank you from **Katelyn Thompson**

to the Men's Club, Women's Fellowship, Evening Circle & Christian Board of Education for the kind donations toward Camp MoVal. It was yet another great experience!

***Thank you to Darrell Schmitt, Roger Niernan and Roland Niemann** for their part in fixing the light in the sign in front of the church.

Also, a big thank you to Kim Fast for loaning electrician Dave Mundwiller to assist in the light repair.

***Volunteers** are needed to help with the Advent candle lighting and litany reading during the morning worship services in December. If you would like to help bring God's light into our services, please contact Jackie Niernan at 636-497-6220 or by e-mail at jackie.niernan@centurytel.net

***Veterans Day Celebration Service**
On Sunday, Nov 12 we will have our annual Veterans Day celebration service during our morning worship. This year we would like to have a special display of mementos, pictures or military items in honor of those who served. A table will be set up where we will display these items for all to see. So, start digging in those closets for any military item or picture that could be on display for the morning and bring it to the morning service. Display cards will be available to fill out with the name of the military person and description of item. See Jackie Niernan if you have any questions

If the scripture reader would like the scriptures before Sunday, please contact Margaret Viehmann after Wednesday. Her contact number is 636-327-6081.



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.

November Stewardship Moment - 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

At its core, stewardship is actually very simple. It basically boils down to three major points:

1. God owns it all.
2. We are all stewards.
3. We have a responsibility to manage it for His glory.

And here is another devotional reading from Joel Osteen that sums up the core of stewardship: 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

***Stewardship Sunday – November 19th**

Please bring can good or non-perishable food items to church that can be shared with the area food pantries to help those in need. Monetary donations may be given as well. Please note on donation if you would like it to go to Agape or to WC Food Pantry.

The council ask that everyone take time to reflect on the blessings you have been given and to make sure you have financially supported and tithed to the church this year. We need everyone's help to sustain and provide for the expenses to operate and maintain our ministry and church buildings.

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

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 2017

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY

Jason & Angela Case 1
Chad & Elisabeth Thompson 5
Whitney & John Schuenemeyer 13
Mary Sue & Wayne Sitton 18
David & Karen Cox 20
Aaron & Aimee Wilber 21

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Roland Niemann 1

Brenda Wilkins 3
Abby Rosemann 6
Tony Gironde 7
Angela Jones 9
Pat Gerdeman 12
Crystal Johnson 13
Diana Schlueter 13
Stacie Clemons 13
Joseph Pauk 14
Nancy Gatewood 16
Elmer Vahle 17

Tammy Caloroso 20
Earl Requat 21
Gloria Lashley 22
Terry Fingers 24
Blake Meyer 26
Todd Bill 26
Gerri Smith 28
Terri Baker 28
Joshua Rosen 28
George Jaeger 29

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2017

GENERAL FUND	
Offering	\$4044.00
Initial offering	2.00
AA Jan.-Dec.	300.00
Interest-American Bank of Mo.	56.71
Donation for video taping	100.00
	\$4502.71
BENEVOLENT FUND	
Offering	\$ 60.00
Neighbors in Need	25.00
W.C. food pantry	5.00
Hurricane Harvey	10.00
	\$ 100.00
BUILDING FUND	
Offering	\$ 30.00
	\$ 30.00
PARKING LOT FUND	
Liberty Christian Academy	\$ 750.00
	\$ 750.00
	\$5382.71

Christmas Food Baskets

Christmas Breakfast

Pancake Mix
Syrup
Sausage

Christmas Dinner

Ham
Potatoes
2 cans corn
2 cans green beans
Pie
12 dinner rolls
Canned gravy
Canned cranberry sauce
1 pound butter or margarine

Christmas Stocking for each child

Packet of Hot Cocoa
Candy cane
Either gloves, socks or hat
Small toy (cards, playdough, car, etc.)

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





The following was written by Rev. Andrew Lovins, minister of Frieden's UCC in Warrenton. He gave Jackie Niernan permission to reprint the article in our newsletter. Although this advice Rev. Lovins is giving to members of Friedens, Jackie felt that his sound advice for church development would be good information for members of Immanuel to meditate on for the future of Immanuel.

Thoughts on Church Development

In my training as a church developer, I've discovered a few principles that guide the way I, always imperfectly, lead a church. Here are a few concepts that explain the way I envision our journey together:

We must think about those on the outside as much as we do those on the inside. A church that only pleases its current "customer" base will not gain new "customers." Even in Acts the church expanded from "Jerusalem, to Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). The church must resist an inward focus and embrace an ever-widening vision.

We must not be afraid to try new things, even if that means risking failure. The only people who never fail are those who never try anything new. Risk taking mission is integral to a growing church. To "walk on the water" you must get out of the boat and take the first step (Matt 14:24-33).

We must constantly be thinking about ways to improve our ministry. Having a "good enough" mentality will create stagnation and ingrain mediocrity in the fabric of our ministry. Growth is not just numerical, but spiritual, personal, and corporate. "But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" 2 Pet 3:18).

We must care about first impressions. If people drive by a facility and it looks tired, confusing, or sends the message, "God was moving here forty years ago," it's time to update. The same goes for the interior. God deserves our best effort, so do the people we hope to reach with the Gospel. New worshippers seldom chose to stay at a church that is not as nice as their home. Studies show that they decide within minutes of stepping on church grounds whether they will ever return for a second visit. I wish people were deeper, but frankly, we are trying to reach sinners, not philosophers. "I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some," writes St Paul (1 Cor 9:22).

We must insist on high commitment from each other. If we really care about each other, and about following Jesus' example of life in community, we will not take a casual attitude toward church membership vows. The commitment to presence, gifts and service, matters. They are expressions of love. "Do not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another" (Heb 10:25).

Let these ideas percolate in your mind a bit. I feel that we have a very fine church, with an extraordinary group of people who call Friedens their home. Together, we can make it even better for the Kingdom and community of Warrenton.

You Are Loved,
Rev Andrew

EVENING CIRCLE CHRISTMAS DECORATING

*The Evening Circle will be decorating the church for the Christmas season near the end of November. The date will be decided at our Oct monthly meeting after the printing of this newsletter. Please watch future church bulletins for date and join in the fun!

POINSETTIAS

*Each Christmas the sanctuary of Immanuel UCC is decorated with poinsettias which can be purchased and given in honor or memory of loved ones. If you would like to take part in this tradition, please contact Evening Circle member Lavelle Requat at 636-673-2344 to place your order. Cost is \$6 each. She will need to know by November 27.