

Journey Connection

August 2024

Mission Statement of Immanuel Church To be and to make Spirit-filled followers of Christ who shine the light of God's love to the world.

Welcome to Immanuel Church!

We at Immanuel are on a joyful journey – with Jesus – to disclose His presence in the world and His love for all people. With Humility, we invite **everyone** to join us, **regardless** of their relationship with Jesus, and even if they doubt His reality. And we invite **everyone** to join us, **regardless** of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, family status, or the brokenness of their lives. On this journey there are no judgments – just Jesus. Whoever you are, **you are welcome** to join us!

If you desire information about becoming more involved in Immanuel Church, please contact Rev. Rich Vincent pastor@immanuelwestbend.org or Jenny Landowski director@immanuelwestbend.org or leave a message at the church office (262) 334-2886



A word, or two from our Pastor...

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ,

Last month I shared with you a poem by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette which provided a beautiful summary of what we've covered so far. This month, I offer another poem of hers that covers our most recent studies in James and goes through to the end of the letter.

> O Lord, may all we say and do reflect the faith we have in you; for faith is meant to change the way we live our lives from day to day.

God, may we open wide the door and welcome people who are poor; and may we share with them our bread, for faith without good works is dead.

Just as a spark can start a fire, our words can damage or inspire; we pray for wisdom from above to speak and act in gentle love.

May we not covet earthly things or seek the riches this world brings; may we not boast of all our plans, for, Lord, our lives are in your hands.

O Lord, possessions rust away, but your love fills us every day; through prayer and service in your name, may we live out the faith we claim.

May the words inspire us and define us as we seek to walk in the way of Christ!

Grace and peace, Rich



On behalf of our President...

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ,

Wow! It's August already. School supplies are for sale and plans for a new school year are underway. At Immanuel, plans for a new year of youth ministries are also underway. Before you know it, we will be gathering for Rally Sunday. Speaking of gathering, what a wonderful First Annual Immanuel July JAM we had at Barton Park. Everyone, young and old, spent an amazing afternoon playing, laughing, talking, and eating his/her way through the afternoon. A huge thank you to all of our wonderful consistory members for planning and carrying out this event! If you were not able to attend this year, you won't want to miss it next year.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.



Financial Secretary...

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Immanuel UCC 2024 Annual Local Mission Budget is \$449,768

Thank you for your continued support of Immanuel's local ministries mission of:

- providing meaningful life changing worship
- nurturing persons in their faith journey
- witnessing to our faith in service beyond ourselves

Mid-year Contribution Statements have been sent out. Please let me know if you have any questions.

As you can see below, Immanuel's giving for June was less than expenses which meant we had to borrow money from Immanuel's restricted funds once again. The *Good News* is that YTD Operating Expenses as of June 30, 2024, are \$9,664 less than last year at the end of June. However, going into July we had zero cash available for current expenses, meaning that we owe 'Restricted Funds' *\$2,806.81* plus whatever will be needed to be borrowed to meet future operating expenses. *Please consider this as you continue to support Immanuel's local ministries.*

Just a reminder, when writing checks to Immanuel and Joyful Journeys please write two separate checks as this makes it easier to account for what is designated for Immanuel and what is for Joyful Journeys. Also, you can make on-line donations separately to Immanuel and Joyful Journeys via each of their websites, *immanuelwestbend.org* or *joyfuljourneys-inc.org*.

If you have any questions regarding Immanuel finances or would like to discuss your giving, please note my regular office hours are on Tuesdays from 9am-3pm. You can also reach me via my email, <u>finance@immanuelwestbend.org</u> or leave a message on the church phone 262-334-2886. I welcome the opportunity to chat with you.

Blessings, Karen

Immanuel Finance Report June 2024

		<u>Month</u>		<u>YTD</u>
Total Income		\$25,148.53		\$194,326.75
Total Expenses		<u>\$32,450.23</u>		<u>\$209,347.02</u>
Income vs Expenses		(\$7,301.70) De	ficit	(\$15,020.27) Deficit
Note:	Giving met 77%	6 of expenses	Giving	met 96% of expenses

Offering Altar

The Offering Altar is located in the Narthex, just outside the Sanctuary. On it you will find the Giving Church; monetary donations can be slipped in through the slit on top. There is also information about Immanuel Church and

its ministries along with additional contribution envelopes. If you are a visitor and would like us to contact you, please fill out the information form and drop it in the Giving Church and be sure to help yourself to a welcome packet. Also available on the Offering Altar are Prayer Request forms; prayers dropped into the Giving Church will be shared with the Son Shine Gals during communal prayer time. If we can be of further assistance to you, please contact Jenny Landowski at 262-334-2886 or director@immanuelwestbend.org



Property update...

Still awaiting on a filter for the water cooler in the hallway. Filter is ordered just awaiting to receive the order.

The State of WI inspected our elevator and found two things that needed attention. The battery backup and alarm bell in the elevator car needs to be replaced. Otis technician showed up today and replaced the battery, but did not have an alarm bell on hand. He will get one and replace it as soon as possible.

The plaster around the sanctuary stained glass windows moisture level still registers quite high, mainly around where the wooden frame meets the plaster. The wooden frame on the surface doesn't seem to be compromised, I will keep monitoring it.

We will be doing a exterior inspection and painting as needed before cold weather comes and we will be asking for help once that is scheduled.

We are looking to repair or replace the door on the main level Women's restroom to allow easier access in and out.

Property Team

A NOTE FROM OUR CHOIR DIRECTOR...

Hello! How about joining me in song! You can sing these lyrics to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee". Ready ?? Here we go!

> On the beach, the waves of waters Crash upon the sparkling sand. Parents with their sons and daughters Stroll and chatter, hand in hand. Several people, watching, gazing, Spot some dolphins swimming free. God, your world is so amazing! Thank you for the wondrous sea.

Later on, the storm clouds gather, Rolling in upon the shore. Lightening crashes, people scatter As the rains begin to pour There is music in the thunder! Soon the storms will pass on by. God, we thank you for the wonder Of the ever-changing sky.

In our homes and on vacation, God your love is every place. You have made this good creation; You have filled your world with grace. Sea and land reflect your glory; Beauty lights your sky above. God, creation sings the story Of your ever-constant love.

Thank you to Carolyn Winfrey Gillette for her every imaginative and always relevant words that we can sing to hymn tunes we know and love. You can find more on her website: www.carolynshymns.com. If you find one that speaks to you, please let me know!

Summer is not only a time when many can enjoy a vacation, or at least warmer temperatures. It is also a time when conferences and enrichment classes take place - especially for church musicians. In June, I attended the Handbell Musicians of America's Area 7 Festival, held in La Crosse WI. Area 7 encompasses Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba, so you can understand that a conference held in Wisconsin was one that I did not want to miss! Immanuel Church's generosity helped me to attend this conference - thank you!!

Here is a brief summary I wrote for HMA's newsletter: "My original interest in attending the Area 7 HMA Festival was to gain technical knowledge and perhaps make some connections relevant to bell repair and maintenance for my church's 4 octaves of White Chapel Bells - I am a new director and have a lot to learn! The Festival did not disappoint! Each class I attended was led by knowledgeable and helpful instructors, and I left each class thinking "I can do this!!!!" I felt well equipped with a head full of information, useful handouts and contact information in case I should have any questions in the future. And attending those class sessions could have been enough, but then there was the mass ringing! I had never experienced anything like it before. I was graciously adopted into an attending bell choir and made to feel welcome ringing at their assigned tables and using their bells. Everyone at the conference was friendly and helpful. No need to feel nervous! But then, the music: the stunning selections and arrangements led by two amazing clinicians. And, a WALL OF SOUND like I've seldom experienced. Being part of a team comprising approximately 265 ringers is not something I will ever forget. The icing on the cake was the concerts given by Specialty Choirs and the Bells of the Bluffs choir from Red Wing. The ringers and directors exhibited exceptional talent and technical finesse! I really experienced the full realm of the potential of bell choirs. I am grateful for financial assistance from Immanuel Church and the Clista Wood scholarship that paved the road for my attendance at the Festival. I learned the value of this Festival in the knowledge that I gained, the music that filled my heart and soul, and the contacts I met. "

> Choirs! Handbells, Ladies and Adult choir: Handbell Choir: first rehearsal will be on August 27th Ladies Ensemble: first rehearsal will be on September 3rd Adult Choir: first rehearsal will be on September 3rd

If you have any questions about participating in any of Immanuel's choirs, please let me know!



Beverly Mark 920-242-7318 bevbeemark@gmail.com



JAM Time* News

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:1

The purpose of Immanuel Church's Children's Ministry is: To work with families to share the amazing story of the Christian faith in such a way that children fall in love with Jesus.

We need YOU to help make this happen!



Please prayerfully consider how you can bless the children of Immanuel with your gifts.

Are you new to Immanuel and have children aged 3 – 6th grade? Do you just love being around kids and having a great time? Have you ever looked at the J.A.M. Time bulletin board and thought "WOW! That looks like a lot of fun!" Or have you heard some of Immanuel's Shine Brites talking about how much fun they had baking, making crafts, acting out a play, playing games or learning a song and wondered "Hey! How do I get in on all this fun?"

Well now's your chance! Mark your calendars for a brief informational meeting to learn more about our J.A.M. Time program and serving opportunities.

WHEN: Sunday, August 18th at 11:45 a.m.

WHERE: Adult Education Room

Questions? Please contact Mitch Schleif <u>Excited4JAM@Immanuelwestbend.org</u> 262-338-2886 ext. 104 414-491-5057

*Jesus and Me Time – is Immanuel's Children's Ministry program for children aged three through 6th grade. JAM Time meets Sunday mornings September - May from 10:30-11:30 in the 4k/5k room downstairs.



Summer Shine

August 18th 10:30am-11:30am



Join us for our final Summer Shine, and enjoy fun, food, and fellowship!

Shine is faith and fellowship building program for high school students. You don't need to register or commit- just come downstairs to the church basement and find the room at the bottom of the stairs that has So. Many. Couches.

Questions? Comments? Talk to Elise! (262) 343-1149 or shine@immanuelwestbend.org

Summer SHINE Fun!



Youth Group!

The youth outdoor games and dinner turned into an Olympic Minuit to win challenges and dinner. Fun was had by all!



J.J.M. Time & Youth Brad Fry AUGUST 17TH IN IMMANUEL'S SMALL PARKING LOTI

7:30AM-NOON

Come Join the Fun! There will be Food, Live Music & Face Painting!

Full Shelf Pantry

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb (or jelly), sweetness to the soul and health to the body. **Proverbs 16:24**

> In support of West Bend's Full Shelf Pantry throughout the month of August, we will be collecting **Peanut Butter and Jelly**



12 count egg cartons are needed on a monthly basis

Items can be placed in the bins outside the main office, or cash/checks (payable to Immanuel) can be put in your giving envelope with notation designated to Food Pantry. Any questions see Jenny or Johanna Landowski

SonShine Gals

The SonShine Gals is an eclectic group of women who share a common thread of growing together in faith and love through books studies, video discussions and prayer.

Our current book study is on "The Stranger in the Lifeboat" by Mitch Albom, The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10:00am-11:30am.

Thursday, August 8th Special guest speaker, Marilyn Raschka – Topic: Peace in the Middle East

If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, please contact Jenny Landowski

RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARDS (formally known as SCRIP)

Raise Right Gift Card sales benefit our Joyful Journeys Ministries; members of the India Task Force will have cards on hand on Sunday mornings; you can find them seated at the table across from the church mailboxes. They can also take your special orders; forms can be found in mailbox # 79. Completed forms with payment made out to Joyful Journeys can be dropped off on Sunday mornings or brought into the main office Monday thru Thursday between 9am-3pm. Special orders this month will be called in on Monday, August 12th.

RaiseRight



~Joyful Journeys, Inc.~ An outreach ministry founded and operated by members of Immanuel Church.

OUR MISSION: to establish and or operate programs and facilities that will assist impoverished and needy people whose lives are challenged by current life circumstances, by helping to provide for their immediate basic needs and to bring them hope and promise for a brighter future.

Matthew 25:40 "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."







Authentic Indian Meal and Spirits Special Entertainment

Immanuel UCC, West Bend Tickets go on sale 8/25/24

Joyful Journeys website https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/

For more information about Joyful Journeys India Ministry, contact Jenny Landowski at 262-334-2886 or director@immanuelwestbend.org

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Our Silent Auction Committee has already been working hard acquiring items and gift certificates from local businesses for our upcoming India Gala Silent Auction,

but we need your help to ensure the success of the event!

Please consider the following:

Donations of Handcrafted items, specialty meals, gift certificates, _____
 of the month, jewelry, and "techy stuff" are just a few suggestions.
 Please use donation slips outside of the main office to accompany auction items.

~ Please be aware that ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW.

~ All items must be received by Wednesday, September 18th.

If you have any questions, need suggestions, or want more information, please contact Mary Demmon (262)483-2921, Laurie McCann (414)416-7184, Barb Seefeldt (262)853-5628 or Judy Krepsky (262)707-9567, our awesome Silent Auction Committee members, and they'd be happy to assist you.



Additional Expenses in the month of August
New equipment for Science Lab \$300
Inverter Battery for Kitchen \$270

If you would like to cover, or contribute to one of these items, you can do so by cash/check made out to Joyful Journeys or pay online through our secure website <u>https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/</u> Thank you for prayerfully considering this.

Circle of Friends

CHRISTMAS IN JULY... IT'S A WRAP!



We are incredibly grateful for everyone who supported our Christmas in July Towel Drive for the Circle of Friends Shoppe;

in addition to individuals who contributed, we also received a large donation from **Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge** as they shared their bounty!

May God continue to bless this ministry as a source of support to those in need within our community.

If you would like more information about the Circle of Friends Shoppe, or to donate online,

visit our website at joyfuljourneys-inc.org.

If you would like to know more about how you can help within this ministry, please don't hesitate to contact Jenny at

262-334-2886 or director@immanuelwestbend.org

Take me out to the ball game!

A special "THANK YOU", from MR. BOB, to everyone who came out to the ball park in support of **Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge**! The rain didn't dampen the spirits of the Immanuel fans as they cheered on the Lakeshore Chinooks and enjoyed an afternoon of fun!

We give thanks for this wonderful partnership, and the opportunity to support each other in service and love!















Thursday August 1st 1pm-3-pm COF Shoppe 5pm India Task Force

Friday August 2nd 6:30 pm NA

<u>Saturday August 3rd</u> 10am–Noon COF Shoppe

Sunday August 4th Communion 9am and 10:30 am Worship 4pm-6:30pm Patio Party at The Orville

Monday August 5th

<u>Tuesday August 6th</u> 5:45pm Finance Meeting

Wednesday August 7th 2:30pm PEO Book Club 3:45pm JJ Inc. meeting 7 pm AA meeting Thursday August 8th 10am SonShine Gals Memorial for Kevin Roos 2pm Visitation 3pm Service 5:30 pm Church & Ministry 6:30 pm Consistory

Friday August 9th 6:30 pm NA

Saturday August 10th

Sunday August 11th 9am and 10:30 am Worship

<u>Monday August 12th</u> 12pm Boundaries 4:15pm Citizen Advocates

Tuesday August 13th

Wednesday August 14th 7 pm AA meeting

Thursday August 15th

Friday August 16th

6:30 pm NA

<u>Saturday August 17th</u> 7:30am-12:30pm J.A.M. Time & Youth Group Brat Fry 10am–Noon COF Shoppe

<u>Sunday August 18th</u> 9am and 10:30 am Worship 10:30am Summer J.A.M/SHINE 11:45am J.A.M. Time volunteer meeting

Monday August 19th

Tuesday August 20th 7pm PEO

Wednesday August 21st 5pm - 7pm COF Shoppe 7 pm AA meeting

Thursday August 22nd 10am SonShine Gals Friday August 23rd 6:30 pm NA

Saturday August 24th

Sunday August 25th 9am and 10:30 am Worship

Monday August 26th

Tuesday August 27th 1pm Staff meeting 5pm Handbell Choir

Wednesday August 28th 7 pm AA meeting

Thursday August 29th

Friday August 30th 6:30 pm NA

Saturday August 31st



Monday – Thursday 9am – 3pm





Altar Flowers

Would you like to help beautify our worship services by donating flowers for the altar? You can celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or place them in memory of a loved one. The sign-up

sheet is posted outside of Pastor Rich's office.

Please fill out an order form and return it with a check for \$30.00 to the church office. After the second service, the sponsoring member can take the flowers home.

This month our flowers have been donated by:

August 4th: Chris & Jennifer Arndt in celebration of our 5th wedding anniversary

August 11th: Doug & Jeane Stewart in celebration of their Wedding Anniversary

August 18th: Chris and Emilie Witt in memory of Chris Witt's dad, Bruce Witt, whose 74th birthday would have been tomorrow (8/19) Happy Heavenly Birthday!

August 25th: Eric Christie in celebration of his & Terry's 44th wedding anniversary on the 23rd of August

BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST!



Zuriel Pabon 2nd Jane Danielson 3rd Austin Koehler 3rd Jericoh Thull 3rd Thomas Kreif 4th Chris Witt 4th Mike Soener 6th Rachel Gumm 7th Tom Wilson 8th Tyler Wolff 9th Eric Christie 10th Debbie Nelson 10th Jason Ratzburg 10th Ed Krepsky 12th Dennis Roos 15th Tobias Halfman 16th Gaige House 16th Judy Muelling 16th Twyla Bath 17th Chuck Gustafson 17th KC Laycock 17th Gene Kreis 18th Scott Rusch 19th Austin Schmitt 21st Amy Mueller 24th Elaine Radzinski 26th Lynn Vegafria 27th Judy Krepsky 29th Cole Mueller 31st Kylee Prahl 31st





Tending the Flock

Please keep our Immanuel Church Family in your thoughts and prayers, specifically those listed below. Contact the church office if you are in need of pastoral care, or would like to be added to the prayer requests.

Yellow Roses:

Val Borresen, Sue Calhoun, Helen Keey, Carol King, Jerry Kuckuk, Judy Muelling, Charles Roemer, and Joan Stenstrup.

Health Concerns:

Luella Dekker, Rachel Gumm, Bruce Kapanke, Ed Krepsky, Bill Myers, Anne Mari Peters, Maggie Seideman, Dave Wolff and Marlene Wondergem.

Those of us who are suffering from depression and/or addiction:

Serving in the military:

Jackson Raad and his wife Carlyn Raad, Rebecca Gerard Shanahan and her husband, David.

Continuing their education:

Brett Bartoszewicz, Abby Frederick, Claire Gustafson, Kendra Kapanke, Chase Mastenbrook, Even Mastenbrook, Lexi McCrillis, Elise Patten, Evan Patten, Valerie Pabon, Madison Schmitt, Chloe Sheehy, Gregory Morales-Torres, Adam Vincent, and Rebecca Kempfer-Witt.

Four Way Covenant Pastor:

Rev. Jim Schleif

Special Prayer Request

Jatziel Pabon, his father Luis, and other members of his family as they deal with tragic circumstances.

Deaths

Kevin Roos 7-30-2024

Family Loss

Larry Wheelock – Husband Roger Stephens Dennis & Cindy Roos – Son, Kevin Roos

Prayer Requests

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ~Philippians 4:6

If you have a special prayer that you would like lifted up on your behalf, feel free to fill out one of the Prayer Request forms located on the Offering Alter and deposit it into the Giving Church or email it to Jenny at <u>director@immanuelwestbend.org</u>.



The SonShine Gals will respectfully include your joys and concerns within their prayers.



THANK YOU FOR SERVING & LETTING YOUR LIGHT SHINE THIS MONTH!

GREETERS:

- August 49:00am Carol Argabright, Pat Sommer10:30am Dave & Lynn Hammen
- August 11 9:00am Maggie Seideman, Max Sommerfeld 10:30am Barb Seefeldt
- August 189:00am Darleen Baerenwald, Georgia Kletti
10:30am Mary Ellen Dodge, Mary jo Norgel, Kent ScheuerellAugust 259:00am Nancy Naab, Esther Kohler
 - 10:30am Julie Glassman

USHERS:	Head Usher: Gary McCrillis
August 4	9:00am Max Sommerfeld, Maggie Seideman, Rich Gerner
	10:30am Gene Kreis
August 11	9:00am Michael Bath, Rachel Gumm
	10:30am Elaine Radzinski
August 18	9:00am Mike Soener, Pat Love
	10:30am Ben & Ashley Russell
August 25	9:00am Wayne & Rosemary Seideman
-	10:30am Joe Halfman

READERS:

August 4	9am Tama Gluck	10:30 Pete Michell
August 11	9am Michal Gerard	10:30 Doug Stewart
August 18	9am Jeanne Forester	10:30 Ashley Russell
August 25	9am Michael Bath	10:30 Jane Kosednar

COFFEE MAKERS:

August 4 Bonnie Gerner August 11 Jim & Anne Mari Peters August 18 <u>STILL NEED SOMEONE</u> August 25 Mary Demmon

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

August 4 Ladies Ensemble & Beverly August 11 Larry Wheelock EcuMen sing at 10:30am August 18 Instant Choir & Beverly August 25 Larry Wheelock

Fellowship Hour: Aug. 4 India Task Force Aug. 11 <u>WE STILL NEED SOMEONE</u> Aug. 18 Karri & Pete Michell Aug. 25 Carol Argabright

Communion Servers: August 4

9:00 – Pat Sommer & Al Vredeveld 10:30 – Kevin & Candi Martin Staying connected with Immanuel through social media... Website – <u>https://www.immanuelwestbend.org/</u> Facebook – Immanuel United Church of Christ YouTube - <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmanuelUCCWestBend</u>

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

501 Walnut Street, West Bend, WI 53095 (262-334-2886) Email address: office@immanuelwestbend.org Immanuel Website: www.immanuelwestbend.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/ImmanuelWestBend/

MINISTERS: All of us

PASTOR: Reverend Richard Vincent pastor@immanuelwestbend.org **PASTORAL ASSISTANT/DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES:** Jenny Landowski director@immanuelwestbend.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Johanna Landowski office@immanuelwestbend.org FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Karen Zachow finance@immanuelwestbend.org DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Mitch Schleif

excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES and CONFIRMATION LEADER:

Johanna Landowski youthgroup@immanuelwestbend.org DIRECTOR OF SHINE: Elise Susnik shine@immanuelwestbend.org ORGANIST/ MUSIC DIRECTOR: Beverly Mark bevbeemark@gmail.com ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Larry Wheelock llwheels@icloud.com WORSHIP TEAM LEADER: Emilie Nieman Witt emilie51288@gmail.com CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR: Terry Christie christieeric35@gmail.com CUSTODIAN: Sophia Landowski CHILDCARE: Tobias Halfman

CONSISTORY ELDERS:

Amy Schmitt – President, Christopher Arndt-Vice-President, Tracy Halfman, and Mitchell Schleif

CONSISTORY DEACONS:

Charlene Swanson – Treasurer, Carol Argabright- Secretary, Ben Russell – Property, Bradly Mitchell, Kent Scheuerell, and Mike Soener

Finance Committee: Karen Zachow - Financial Secretary, Charlene Swanson – Treasurer, Julie Feit, Tama Gluck, Dave Hammen, Doug Stewart, and Ben Russell

