



Journey Connection

December 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

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT IMMANUEL CHURCH

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

6:00pm Family Nativity Pageant
and

Candlelight Festival
of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 29th

9:00am Worship Service
Pajama Sunday

Virtually join us live on Facebook or watch it recorded on
Immanuel's YouTube channel.

A word, or two from our Pastor...

Once again, Advent is upon us. Yes, Advent, not Christmas.

In spite of the consumer craze that pushes us earlier and earlier into “the Christmas season” (something I refer to as “premature seasonal disorder”) the wisdom of the church calls us to slow down and evaluate our lives and longings as we wait patiently through “the Advent season.” That’s right, it’s not Christmas until December 25, and that begins the true “Christmas season”, otherwise known as the “Twelve days of Christmas”.

I realize this can seem overly precise and petty, but I think it’s important that we lean into the ancient wisdom that our salvation does not begin with a bang, but rather, is experienced through our hopeful longings that cry out for light, love, and peace in a world that is often dark and dangerous. For four weeks during Advent, we practice guarding, nurturing, and practicing hope by clinging to God’s promises that have yet to be fulfilled. This “holding out of hope” is not easy. It calls us to discover a strength beyond ourselves as we faithfully seek God and prayerfully yearn for God’s promises to come to fulfillment.

In other words, Advent is a challenging time of holding two truths together: To be realistic about the darkness of the world while at the same time not losing hope in the future. Or, to put it another way, it is about waiting patiently and courageously in hope, setting our trusts on God’s faithful promises to bring light to our darkness. It is my joy to share this time of Advent with you, with all its unfulfilled longings, so that together, we may rejoice in the glory of Christ’s humble entry into our broken world!

One final note: As you know, everything we do together is a result of your generous giving and faithful presence. As the end of the year approaches, I invite you to consider a special Advent offering to help us reach our budgetary goal for 2024. We are close enough that if everyone who is able offered an extra gift, we could meet our goal. Here is my promise to you. If we can end the year with no shortage, I promise to put on the best celebration party I can provide in early January to express my gratitude and rejoice together in our achievement. I encourage you to prayerfully consider this.

But no matter what, I encourage you to join us for Advent season!
Your presence and participation are truly appreciated!

Grace and peace,

Rich



On behalf of our President...

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ,

At our Fall Congregational Meeting, we passed the 2025 budget. Thank you to all who worked to prepare this budget and to those who were able to attend the meeting. I would like to thank the members of the consistory who are working hard to find ways to continue to be sure we are meeting our budget. I encourage everyone to prayerfully consider his/her giving as we end 2024. Wouldn't it be wonderful to end the year in the black!

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (Hebrews 13:16)

Mark your calendars for the Christmas Benefit Concert on Sunday, December 8th at 6:00. Proceeds from the concert will go towards Immanuel's general fund. Bucket Raffle tickets are on sale Sundays leading up to the concert. Tickets will also be for sale the night of the concert. Come out and enjoy a great evening of fun and fellowship, while supporting our church.

As we enter the Advent Season, I hope you will join me in reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth. I pray that we all find ways to share our greatest gifts of: hope, peace, love, and joy - not just during this season of Advent, but always.

Blessings,
Amy

Property update...

This past month we have been able to do some church cleaning. We reached out to a person that picks up scrap metal and we were able to get rid of a lot of scrap desks, some old appliances, old metal shelving and other miscellaneous items. This was at no cost to the church.

We are getting an estimate to possibly have automatic door openers installed on our ladies' and men's bathroom doors.

We have Ahern, Kettle Moraine Heating and Hartford Boiler scheduled in the upcoming days for routine maintenance and inspection.

We are meeting with the City of West Bend in regards to a joint venture in maintenance of our parking lot.

The property team has developed a checklist of items that we want to accomplish going forward. This will be driven by funds available and using all asset available to us.

Property Team

Financial Secretary...

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

Happy December!

At the November 3rd Fall Congregational Business Meeting the **2025 Budget** was passed in the amount of **\$442,561.79**. As of this writing, **pledge cards** in the amount of **\$182,272.00** have been received for 2025. This is a 20% decrease in pledge amounts compared to last year. If you have not had an opportunity to complete a 2025 pledge/commitment card, there are extras available in the Narthex by the Giving Church.

As a reminder, if you indicated that you no longer required envelopes for 2025 but have changed your mind, please let me know. Also, let me know if you no longer require envelopes.

Blessings,
Charlene



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

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 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9am-2:30pm. You can also reach me via my email, finance@immanuelwestbend.org or leave a message on the church phone 262-334-2886. I welcome the opportunity to chat with you.

October 2024 Monthly Finance Report

	Month	YTD
Total Income	\$24,311.68	\$315,301.97
Total Expenses	<u>\$31,998.94</u>	<u>\$332,500.28</u>
Income vs Expenses	\$ -7,687.26 Deficit	\$ -17,198.31 Deficit

Note: YTD Giving met 95% of YTD Expenses

Cash Available for Church Operations October 2024

Cash Balance Available Beginning of Month 10/1/24	\$ 2,702.41
Income	\$ 24,311.68
Expenses	<u>\$ 31,998.94</u>
Cash Balance Available Ending of Month 10/31/24	\$ -4,984.85

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 SonShine Gals during communal prayer time. For those interested in donating online, for your convenience, access our secure giving page on our website through the QR Code below.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please contact Jenny Landowski at 262-334-2886 or

director@immanuelwestbend.org



A NOTE FROM OUR CHOIR DIRECTOR...

"Fear Not", the Angel Said by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

"Fear not!", the angel said, "God's joy is in the air!
Now go to Bethlehem and see a newborn baby there.

A Savior, yet a child! So young, and yet the Lord!"

God's grace astounds, God's love surrounds this sinful, hurting world.

Fear not when questions come: "How can I know God's way?"

"Do my possessions weight me down?" "Can God change me today?"

For Jesus came to be true bread that satisfie;

And in his birth, God touched the earth; Christ saves, forgives, and guides.

Fear not, you church of Christ, distracted and distressed,

For long ago in troubled times, Christ came, and we were blest.

Our Prince of Peace is born - our light, our life, our song!

In him we see our unity, in him God makes us strong.

I often look to the poet Carolyn Winfrey Gillette for new lyrics to old hymn tunes. Don't misunderstand - I love our older hymns like they are dear friends! New lyrics set to older hymn tunes, though, can wake up our hearts and refresh the tune in our soul. You can reflect on th words above to the tune of "This Is My Father's World" Try it!

This is a season of beautiful music - it can be found all around us, and it can be found here at Immanuel Church. Come join us and celebrate in the beauty of this sacred season!

Coming up this month we have:

Christmas Benefit Concert: December 8th

Pre-Concert Social: 6:00 pm

Concert: 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Lessons, Carols and Pageant: December 24th, 6:00pm

Please contact me if you are interested in being a part of Immanuel's choirs. Want to sing with us on Christmas Eve? Contact me and pick up a folder of our Christmas Eve music. Here's our schedule on Tuesday evenings:

5:00 pm Handbell Ensemble

6:00 pm Ladies Ensemble

6:30 pm Adult Choir

May you find unexpected beauty this month.

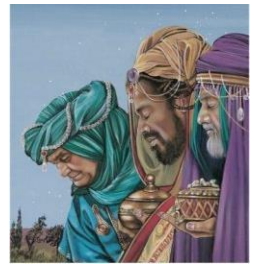
Beverly Mark

920-242-7318

bevbeemark@gmail.com



J.A.M. Time*
December 8th – December 22nd
Advent: Wise Men



*Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?
For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him.*
Matthew 2:2

Cuttin' and Struttin' – Potpourri Sachets
Kickin' Kitchen – Gingerbread Cookies
Pleasin' Plots – Pictionary

UP NEXT

December 1

December 24, 6 P.M.:

December 29

January 5 – 19

January 26

Family Worship – NO JAM Time

Nativity Pageant

Family Worship – NO JAM Time

Jesus' Temptations

Camp Sunday!

**~Interested in our JAM Time program...Check out the JAM Time
bulletin board for program information and volunteer opportunities.**

Questions? Please contact Mitch Schleif at

Excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

414-491-5057

*Jesus and Me Time – is Immanuel's Children's Ministry program for children age three through 6th grade. JAM Time meets Sunday mornings September - May from 10:30-11:30 in Fellowship Hall.



Sunday Morning Childcare



Immanuel offers childcare for children ages **3yrs and under**, on Sunday mornings, during both 9:00 and 10:30am Worship. Our Nursery is located above the Narthex and can be accessed by the stairway at the end of the hall. Children aged 4 through 6th grade are welcome to visit or enroll in J.A.M. Time (Jesus & Me Time), which takes place in the lower level during the 10:30am Worship Service. If you have questions or need direction, an Usher would be happy to assist you.

Nativity/Christmas Eve Service

Preparation is under way for our annual Christmas Eve service. As always it will be a beautiful and meaningful worship service.

A letter will be sent out with more info, but if you have any questions or know already your child want's to be in the program, please let Johanna Landowski or Mitch Schleif know if you plan on having your child participate in this year's pageant.



Johanna Landowski office@immanuelwestbend.org

Mitch Schleif Excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

CORE

In December we will be talking about Advent and how we can prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, and how we can spread holiday cheer.

Schedule:

December 1st – Family Worship No CORE

December 8th, 15th, 22nd – Advent/Christmas

December 24th – Christmas Program

December 29th - Family Worship No CORE

CORE Leader Johanna Landowski
confirmation@immanuelwestbend.org
Church 262-334-2886 Cell 262-353-2739

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Saturday December 21st 6:45am – 10:am Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge

If you are a youth and want to attend or an adult who is interested in helping with Chaperoning youth activities, feel free to contact me at church.

Johanna Landowski
(262) 334-2886 Church
(262) 353-2739 Cell

youthgroup@immanuelwestbend.org

Youth Fall Cleanup Day!



December SHINE: Gratitude

What are you most grateful to have in your life? The big things, sure, and those little things, too... but what about the things that didn't go the way you hoped? Are there things to be grateful for that we've never really even considered?

Join us as we take a look at contentment and gratitude through the words of Jesus and Paul, as well as Wendell Berry, Henry David Thoreau, and a host of random but wise strangers on the internet. You may just walk into the new year with a new outlook on your life!

December

- 1- No SHINE- Family Worship
- 8- Living a Life of Gratitude
- 15- Living a Life of Gratitude
- 22- Living a Life of Gratitude
- 24- Christmas Nativity Program
- 29- No SHINE- Family Worship



Shine is a 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. (It's also labeled above the door)

Questions? Comments? Talk to Elise!

(262) 343-1149 or shine@immanuelwestbend.org

Camp Scholarship Fund Raiser!

Thank you all for your help and support during our Camp Scholarship fundraiser! So far, we have raised over \$500 to help Immanuel's youth attend a UCCI camp this upcoming year! There are also still items available for purchase so if you're looking for last minute holiday gifts or just a special treat for yourself, please let Johanna or Mitch know!



Thank You
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

Full Shelf Pantry

"Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:37&40



Reverse Advent Calendar

IN SUPPORT OF WEST BEND'S FULL SHELF PANTRY, THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR. EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX AND GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR BOUNTY. DROP OFF BOXES AT IMMANUEL CHURCH BEFORE CHRISTMAS MON-THURS 9AM-3PM TOGETHER WE CAN HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY FED THROUGHOUT THE WINTER.

Suggested donations of much needed items...

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - jar of jelly
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - box of granola bars
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - box of tissue
- December 12 - bottle of salad dressing
- December 13 - jar of salsa
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package of pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - can of soup
- December 20 - a hygiene product
- December 21 - a canned vegetable
- December 22 - package of toilet paper
- December 23 - can of baked beans
- December 24 - package of cookies

Unable to shop?? Cash/checks (payable to Immanuel) are accepted with notation designated to Food Pantry or include it with your online giving.

Any questions see Jenny or Johanna Landowski

Start shopping early for Christmas Gifts!!

Raise Right Gift Card sales benefit our Joyful Journeys Ministries, both India and the COF Shoppe, 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.

Orders this month will be called in on **Monday, December 16th**.



Consider your space...

As the snow and icy season falls upon us, we ask you to please consider your parking space.



If your physical condition allows you to securely walk across the parking lot, then we ask you to kindly park further back, leaving all the parking spaces in the small parking lot, as well as the first row of spaces closest to the back entrance available for those who might find a trek across a slippery parking lot a bit more challenging.



Thank you for your assistance and be safe! 😊



The Christmas Fund

For the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.



As an alternative to envelopes, you may donate directly and securely through Immanuel's website. <https://www.immanuelwestbend.org/> Please specify under Church's Wider Mission.

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 'Loving Desmond' by Sara DeRoo, During December, we will meet on the 5th and 12th from 10:00am-11:30am.

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

Wise Guys

Hey fellas! Wise Guys is our men's ministry that meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00pm. You are invited to attend this social time including dinner and a short discussion.

The sign-up sheet for **December 19th** is located on the bulletin board outside the main offices. Consider checking it out, and while you're at it, bring a friend!



“Sharing Today’s Word” Immanuel UCC Adult Discussion Group

Do you ever leave Worship on a Sunday morning wishing you had a community to help you process the Message? Well, here is your opportunity to engage with others! “Sharing Today’s Word” is Immanuel’s Adult Discussion Group that does just that. Any individuals, beyond high school age, are welcome to join in; no need to commit on a regular basis, come when it works for you. This group will meet on Sundays at 10:30am in the space connected to the Friendship Room where Fellowship Time treats are served.

Springboard questions to ponder during the sermon and to help facilitate discussion will look something like this...

1. What is the theme of today’s sermon?
2. How can I put this message to use in my life?
3. Is there anything I question or disagree with?
4. What would I add to today’s word?
5. What would be an obstacle to making today’s word part of my life?
6. What would Jesus do?

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kent at kscheuerell@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

Sunday, December 8th
10am - noon

Immanuel's
Fellowship Hall

Cookies sell for
\$10 per pound

Sponsored by
Joyful Journeys
India Task Force



COME, CELEBRATE
SONGS OF THE SEASON
WITH US!

Christmas Benefit Concert

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

6:00pm Social - Drinks & Refreshments

6:30pm Pre-Concert Music

7:00pm Concert Begins

*Freewill donations support
Immanuel's General Fund*

Bucket Raffle for Immanuel's General Expenses

Immanuel's Consistory...RAISING AWARENESS...RAISING FUNDS...

Thanks to the financial contributions of members of various church groups, "buckets" have been assembled to represent various operating expenses.

We invite you to take a chance at winning by purchasing tickets!

100% of profits directly support Immanuel's General Fund!

Tickets can be bought starting on Sunday, November 3rd,
Drawing will take place at Immanuel's Christmas Benefit Concert
on Sunday, December 8th

\$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5



Snow Removal sponsored by the **Wise Guys**
\$100 Gift Card – Sunburst Ski Hill

General Maintenance sponsored by our **Property Group**
\$100 Gift Card – Menards



Utilities sponsored by your **Consistory**
\$100 Gift Card – Kwik Trip



Music sponsored by members of the **Choir, Bells, and Worship Team**
\$100 Gift Certificate - The Bend



Hospitality sponsored by our **Goodie Gang**
\$100 in Coffee Shop Gift Cards



Christian Ed sponsored by leaders of **JAM Time, CORE, & SHINE**
\$100 Gift Card – Hobby Lobby



Technical Support sponsored by our techies in the **Sound Booth & Office**
\$100 Gift Card - West Bend Theatre



Outdoor Property sponsored by the **SonShine Gals**
\$100 Gift Certificate - Paradise Gardens Nursery



Musical Instrument Maintenance sponsored by **Pastor Rich**
\$100 Gift Card – West Bend Music Academy



Outreach sponsored by **Pastoral Assistant Jenny**
\$100 Gift Card – Amazon



~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."

INDIA
◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Christmas in India

Christmas is right around the corner, and preparations are in the works for all the different ways we celebrate the joyous event recognizing Jesus' birth. One of those ways is bringing the Spirit of the Christ Child into the village of Madhavapatnam. Our hope is to give a gift to all who are a part of Joyful Journeys in India.

Please consider making a monetary donation to help cover costs...

\$5 ~ Student Gifts

\$25 ~ Teacher, Cooks, House Pastors, Oldsters, Scavengers, Drivers, and
Childcare Provider Gifts

Donations can be sent or dropped off at Immanuel Church by December 8th.

Please make checks payable to Joyful Journeys and
designate for Christmas Gifts.

Online donations can be made through our secure website:

<https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/how-you-can-help/>

Together, we can shine the Christmas Light of God's love in Madhavapatnam!



Trip to India 2025

January 2020 was the last time we had a group from Immanuel venture over to India to “check in” on our ministry in the village of Madhavapatnam...so much has changed since then...now, is the time to return. The India Task Force is excited to announce the following individuals who will be traveling as ambassadors of Joyful Journeys in June 2025: Jenny Landowski, Lora Buck, Johanna Landowski, Sophia Landowski, Jan Nesladek, Alan Nevala, Brenda Raad, Amy Schmitt, and Madison Schmitt.

There will be different opportunities to help financially support our travelers in the New Year, as there are many additional expenses beyond tickets and hotels that come with this commitment, but for now, we ask that you keep them in your prayers as they repair this upcoming Mission Trip.



Additional Expenses in the month of December

- **Desk repairs \$300**

If you would like to cover, or contribute to this item , you can do so by cash/check made out to Joyful Journeys or pay online through our secure website

<https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/>

Thank you for prayerfully considering this.

Mr. Bob's "Under the Bridge" Blankets for Mr. Bob

In support of the relationship, we have with Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge Ministry, we will be collecting gently used blankets during November and December to give to Mr. Bob as he serves his friends in need within the Milwaukee area. Our Youth will have the opportunity to personally hand some of these items out on Saturday, December 21st as they join Mr. Bob during his weekly visit to the park. What a blessing it is that our Circle of Friends Ministry and Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge have been able to support one another over the past several years as we seek to help those who are wrestling with various struggles in life.

If you have any questions, please contact

Jenny Landowski at director@immanuelwestbend.org

or Johanna Landowski at youthgroup@immanuelwestbend.org

If you would like to offer financial support, please make checks payable to Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, or earmark cash donations as such.



Circle of Friends

UNBELIEVABLE!!! November's visits to the Circle of Friends Shoppe were over top as we served 107 individuals from 35 families! Clearly, this ministry is having an incredible impact on those in our community who are experiencing hardships! How can you help?? Consider spreading the word and sharing our Christmas Wish List with your friends and family...or better yet, get a printout to hang up at your place of employment and invite others to help us keep the Shoppe stocked!! (Printouts can be obtained in Immanuel's Main Office). Items can be dropped off beginning November 17th through December 24th.

Shopping not your thing?? You can give donations through our website <https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/> or give checks payable to Joyful Journeys, and we'll gladly shop for you! Please be sure to designate COF Giving Tree.



**Circle of Friends
Shoppe
Christmas Wish List**

Serving those experiencing hardships in the
Washington County Area.
Items can be dropped off at
Immanuel Church,
501 Walnut Street, West Bend
Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm
Call 262-334-2886 for details

Men's and Women's ANKLE socks
Boys winter coats size 6&7, 14&16
Girls winter coats size 5-12
Boys athletic pants size 10-18
Girls stretchy pants size 3-14
Boys t-shirts size 14-18
Girls shirts size 3-6, 10-14
Men's boxer shorts M-2X
Kid's winter boots
Kid's snow pants
Toasters
Coffee Pots
Sheets Queen
Blankets Full & Queen
Adult Gloves & Mittens

December

Communion

Sunday December 1st

First Sunday of Advent

9am and 10:30 am Worship

10am Christmas decorating

10:30 am Sharing Today's Word

**Family Worship NO J.A.M. Time,
CORE, & SHINE**



Monday December 2nd

Tuesday December 3rd

1pm Staff meeting

5pm Handbell Choir

6pm Ladies Ensemble

6:30pm Adult Choir

Wednesday December 4th

2:30pm PEO Book Club

7 pm AA meeting

Thursday December 5th

1pm-3pm COF Shoppe

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday December 6th

6:30 pm NA

Saturday December 7th

9:30am-11:30am Cookie Drop off

10am-Noon COF Shoppe



Sunday December 8th

Second Sunday of Advent

9am and 10:30 am Worship

10am-Noon Christmas
Cookie Walk

10:30 am J.A.M. Time,
CORE, & SHINE

Sharing Today's Word
6pm Social ~

Drinks & Refreshments

6:30 Pre-Concert Music

7pm Concert Begins

Monday December 9th

12pm Boundaries

4:15pm Citizen Advocates

Tuesday December 10th

Wednesday December 11th

7 pm AA meeting

Thursday December 12th

10am SonShine Gals

5:30 pm Church & Ministry

6:30 pm Consistory

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday December 13th

6:30 pm NA

Saturday December 14th

8am-2pm NA Breakfast with Santa



Sunday December 15th

Third Sunday of Advent



9am and 10:30 am Worship
10:30 am J.A.M. Time,
CORE, SHINE, &
Sharing Today's Word

Monday December 16th

Tuesday December 17th

5pm Handbell Choir
6pm Ladies Ensemble
6:30pm Adult Choir
7pm PEO

Wednesday December 18th

5pm - 7pm COF Shoppe
7 pm AA meeting

Thursday December 19th

6pm Wise Guys
6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday December 20th

6:30 pm NA

Saturday December 21st

6:45am-10am MR. Bobs under the
Bridge Youth Group
10am–Noon COF Shoppe

Sunday December 22nd

Fourth Sunday of Advent



9am and 10:30 am Worship
10:30 am J.A.M. Time,
CORE, & SHINE
No Sharing Today's Word

Monday December 23rd

Tuesday December 24th

Church office hours 9am-Noon
6pm Family Nativity Pageant and
Candlelight Festival of
Lessons and Carols

Wednesday December 25th

Office Closed

7 pm AA meeting



Thursday December 26th

Office Closed

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous

Friday December 27th

6:30 pm NA

Saturday December 28th

Family Worship & Pajama

Sunday December 29th



9am and 10:30 am Worship
10am Christmas decorating
Family Worship NO J.A.M. Time,
CORE, SHINE & Sharing Today's
Word

Monday December 30th

Tuesday December 31st

Church office hours 9am-Noon



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:

December 1st: *Mitch & Jennifer Schleif*

In celebration of their 13th Wedding Anniversary
on December 3rd

December 8th: *Bath Family*

In celebration of all our family and friends, both here and in
our hearts

December 15th: *Al & Kathy Olsen*

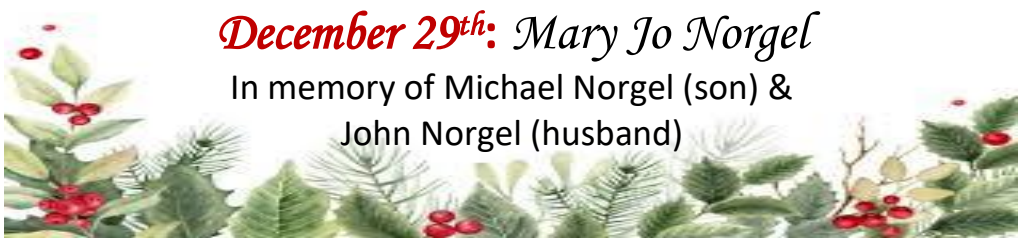
In memory of Carmen M. Olsen, Al's Mother

December 22nd: *June Sommerfeld*

In celebration of all the blessings of family & friends and the
beautiful music of Immanuel Church

December 29th: *Mary Jo Norgel*

In memory of Michael Norgel (son) &
John Norgel (husband)





*THANK YOU TO ALL
WHO SHARED POINSETTIAS
WITH US CHRISTMAS EVE!*



Given by June Sommerfeld in memory of Maggie Seideman ~ She will always remain in our hearts. In celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ who guides us on our life journey

Given by Elaine & Glenn Radzinski in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Given by Evelyn Bruder in memory of Duane Bruder

Given by Mary Ellen Dodge in memory of Mary & Fred Frauenfelder and Gerald Mayer

Given by Marge & Scott Rusch in memory of Roy Rusch

Given by Georgia Kletti in memory of my wonderful husband Art

Given by Alan & Kathy Olsen in celebration of Christ's Birth! Joy to the World!

Given by Mike & Chris Soener in honor of our wonderful church family

Given by Esther Koehler in memory of Audrey Schowalter

Given by Carol Argabright in memory of Barbara Argabright

Given by Curtis & Jeanne Forester in memory of G. W. and Margery Forester and Walter and Lola Kletti

Given by Susan Kist in memory of Susannah Kist & Lynn Vegafria

Given by Louise Aplin in memory of all who joined the Church Triumphant this year

Given by Charlene & Stuart Swanson in memory of David Dean Curtis (Charlene's Father) and in celebration of Jesus Birth!

Given by Doug & Jean Stewart in memory of Walter & Ione Nagel and Lawrence & Marjorie Stewart

Given by Pat Sommer in memory of Bob & Aloidia Ruben Pat Sommer's parents

Given by Dennis & Cindy Roos in memory of Kevin. We miss you

Given by Janice, Sherene, Lori, Cathy, & Karen Grace

in memory of Norene Lowers

Given by Jinna, Brett, & Jamieson in memory of Arnold & Ginny Bertelsen, Dale & Gigi Thompson, Jeff Thompson, Terri Tybring, Arnold & Ginny Bertelsen, in celebration of our amazing church family

Given by Jenny Landowski In memory of Big Bob and in celebration of the amazing gift of LOVE

Given by Kim Lisanby-Barber in honor of Pastor Rich, Jenny, and the rest of our Immanuel staff. So thankful for all...

Remembering in love Gary, my dad and family

Given by Mona & Jim



BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER!

Peggy Kaye 2nd
Robert Huecker 4th
Chassidy McBeath 4th
Marissa Mastenbrook 7th
Olivia Riegel 9th
Penny Elliott 10th
Robert Hammen 10th
Noah Kaye 11th
Robert Patten 12th
Noelle Gluck 13th
Claire Gustafson 13th
Jinna Lusty 13th
Jerry Kuckuk 15th
Esther (Oma) Kohler 16th
Chuck Kaye 19th
Barbara Styduhar 19th
Eben Susnik 19th
Brady Arndt 20th
Al Nevala 21st
Natalie Thielke 21st
Elizabeth Carlson 25th
Nancy Naab 26th
Marty Borresen 27th
Graham Flaherty 27th
Blaine Tofte 27th
Kathryn Hartley 29th
Jane Kosednar 29th





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, Helen Keey, Carol King, Jerry Kuckuk, Judy Muelling, Bill Myers, Nan Myers, Charles Roemer, and Joan Stenstrup.

Health Concerns:

Mona Anderson, Carolyn McCartney, Ken French, Michal Gerard, Rachel Gumm, Joe Halfman, Judy Harris, Bruce Kapanke, Anne Mari Peters, Cyndee Thull, and Dave Wolff.

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

Sue Calhoun 11-1-24

Lynn Vegafria 11-20-24

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 director@immanuelwestbend.org.



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



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

GREETERS:

- December 1 9:00am Carol Argabright, Pat Sommer
10:30am Dave & Lynn Hammen
- December 8 9:00am Max Sommerfeld
10:30am Barb Seefeldt
- December 15 9:00am Darleen Baerenwald, Georgia Kletti
10:30am Mary Ellen Dodge, Mary jo Norgel, Kent Scheuerell
- December 22 9:00am Nancy Naab, Esther Kohler
10:30am Julie Glassman
- December 29 9:00am Dan, Rachel, Sam, & Nora Gerard

USHERS: Head Usher: Gary McCrillis

- December 1 9:00am Max Sommerfeld, Rich Gerner
10:30am Gene Kreis
- December 8 9:00am Michael Bath, Rachel Gumm
10:30am Elaine Radzinski
- December 15 9:00am Mike Soener, Pat Love
10:30am Ben & Ashley Russell
- December 22 9:00am Wayne & Rosemary Seideman
10:30am Joe Halfman
- December 29 9:00am Al Nevala, Jackie Nieman


READERS:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| December 1 | 9am Mona Anderson | 10:30 Tracy Halfman |
| December 8 | 9am Michael Bath | 10:30 Kevin Martin |
| December 15 | 9am Rachel Gumm | 10:30 Laurie McCann |
| December 22 | 9am Jeanne Forester | 10:30 Elaine Radzinski |
| December 29 | 9am Jim Schleif | |

COFFEE MAKERS:

- December 1 Bonnie Gerner
- December 8 Jim & Anne Mari
- December 15 STILL NEED SOMEONE
- December 22 Mary Demmon
- December 29 STILL NEED SOMEONE

Fellowship Hour:

- December 1 Bath Family
- December 8 Christmas Cookie Walk
- December 15 Jinna Lusty
- December 22 STILL NEED SOMEONE
- December 29 Leftover Christmas Cookies (so bring some cookies!) 

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

- December 1 Adult Choir
- December 8 Larry Wheelock & the EcuMen
- December 15 Handbell Ensemble
- December 22 Larry Wheelock
- December 29 Marlene Wondergem and The Ladies Ensemble

Communion Servers: December 1

- 9:00 – Mary Jo Norgel & Kent Scheuerell
- 10:30 – Elaine Radzinski & Ed Muelling

Staying connected with Immanuel through social media...

Website – <https://www.immanuelwestbend.org/>

Facebook – Immanuel United Church of Christ

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmanuelUCCWestBend>

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: Charlene Swanson finance@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Mitch Schleif
excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES and CORE 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- Financial Secretary, Carol Argabright- Secretary,
Ben Russell – Treasurer, Mike Soener – Property, Bradly Mitchell,
and Kent Scheuerell

Finance Committee:

Charlene Swanson - Financial Secretary, Ben Russell – Treasurer, Julie Feit, Tama
Gluck, Dave Hammen, and Doug Stewart,

Immanuel's Team

