

THE LAMPLIGHTER

**Immanuel
United Church of Christ
111 Fremont St.
Walworth, WI 53184**

Worship services 9 a. m.

***“Immanuel’s vision is to Love, Forgive, and
Worship in service to all generations.”***

January 2012

Journeying with Jeannie

Dear Members and Friends,

By the time you read this article, Christmas will have probably come and gone, the presents will have been opened and the feast will have been shared. And now is the time when we feel like, after all the excitement, we are thrown back into ordinary life, preparing to face a New Year. But what are we to expect from this new and possibly unpredictable year?

I can’t even begin to guess what the New Year will bring, but I am thinking about what our part could be in making this year positive. During the Christmas Eve Service, you will remember that we sang the song “Let There Be Peace on Earth”. What a beautiful sentiment, if that was to be so. But what does peace look like for us today?

World peace would be nice, but I want peace to be much closer. I desire peace for my family and peace for myself and peace for the church. But mostly I desire peace for those who are broken and fragmented, frightened and angry, intimidated and restless.

How can we bring that peace to our world? Well I believe that peace comes from within us. When we begin to trust and know God, God’s light begins to flow out of us and brightens the world around us and peace begins to surround us. If we really think about it, peace isn’t out there, floating around like the wind, breezing in and out of the clouds just waiting for the

sun shine to break through. Peace is within each one of us. Peace is a personal journey – one that will take us deep within ourselves, and if we take this journey with faith, this journey will bring us back outside of ourselves and into relationship and community with others.

The goal should be to strive for inner peace. Inner peace is about balance. When peace is disturbed, so is the harmony and rhythm of life.

The quest for peace begins within each one of us, within our minds and our hearts. For community to thrive, the human heart must be transformed. In order for this to happen, our hearts, minds, and bodies must be open to God’s love and leading. We must be vulnerable to others and witness creation through the eyes of God.

In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word for peace is Shalom. Shalom means different things but comes from the root verb *Shalom* meaning to be complete, perfect and full.

In the New Testament, Jesus the Messiah is the bearer, sign, and instrument of God’s peace. Paul tells us Christ is our peace. In Christ all things are healed, reconciled, made new.

That’s what I want – for our world and all her nations, communities, tribes and families – to be healed, reconciled and made new. I pray that you also want the same. May your New Year be more blessed than you could ever imagine.

Shalom,



Rev. Jeannie Douglas

Important Dates to Remember

Dec 25—NO SERVICES

Jan 1—Communion & Hymn Sing

Jan 8—Candidate Preaching & Congregational meeting

Jan 15—Annual Meeting—after church

Jan 29—Ad Board—after church

Feb 5—Communion

Feb 22—Ash Wednesday

The Search Committee will be having a candidate come and preach on Sunday, January 8th. We will then be having a congregational meeting after church that day for the purpose of calling a minister. Please come and hear him preach and vote.

Moderator's Moment

It's time to reflect back on 2011. Immanuel was alive and very active, thanks to everyone's participation. Interim pastor Jeannie led us in worship with wonderful messages. Our talented musicians add so much to the worship experience. The deacons and trustees quietly worked behind the scenes to keep everything working smoothly. Church secretary Madeline keeps everything together for all of us and we are grateful for her service. Lydia's Helpers faithfully created quilts, each with their personal touch to share with others. Community outreach continues to expand with the food pantry. Contributions and

volunteer hours are at amazing levels, thanks to everyone's participation.

Change is coming in 2012! Please join us in worship to hear the search committee's candidate on Sunday, January 8th. There will be a congregational meeting to vote immediately after the service. Come celebrate with us on January 15th to thank Pastor Jeannie for her 21 months of serving as our interim pastor and leading our worship services. The annual meeting follows worship that morning in the church dining hall. The Good Samaritan Award will be announced. Church leaders for 2012 will be voted into service.

It's been both a challenge and an honor to serve as your moderator in 2011. Having served in this capacity before, I can honestly share this fourth time was an amazing journey in my personal faith. After 43 years of membership there are good memories and I look forward to many more at Immanuel.

Please join us in worship and come feel the Spirit of Immanuel.

Truly yours in Service,
Becky Merwin
2011 Moderator

Madeline will be out of the office from Dec. 29th—January 12th. If you have to reach her, please call her at home at 275-3869, on her cell at 215-4458, or e-mail, maddoo46@gmail.com



Dear Immanuel Friends,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$176.40 to the Food Pantry. Your contribution helps us to continue our mission to feed the hungry in our community. God bless you all.

Madeline Zindrick—Site Coordinator

Dear Friends,

Thank you for contributing to Church World Service through our Blankets + program. With your help we can continue to assist people overcome by natural and human-caused disasters, as well as supporting community efforts to develop sustainable agriculture, reliable safe water supplies, and other means to break the grip of grinding poverty.

Please accept this honor certificate (posted down in the dining room) as a sign of our gratitude for your support. We hope you will display it proudly as a sign of our partnership in building a world with enough for all.

Sincerely,
Rev. John L. McCullough
Executive Director and CEO
Church World Service

Dear Immanuel Family,

Thank you to the Immanuel Christmas carolers for coming to my home, and also thanks for the goodies. It was very much appreciated.

Elated Merry Christmas,
Evelyn Leseberg

New Address

Rev. John & Cindy Helt
924 Oconobanks Dr.
Colgate, WI 53017

Our new church address:
111 Fremont St.
Walworth, WI 53184



January Anniversaries

- 17—Chuck & Melany Christenson
- 18—Jim & Joyce Kennedy



January Birthdays

- 7—Alfred Drummond
11—Mac McConnell
15—Bill Baxter
Katie Pearce
21—Carroll Gildemeister
Harold Woodhouse
23—Sandy Cunningham
Elisa Halma
28—Mike Bromeland
Nikki Palma
30—Matt Freitag
31—Marion Blow

“Time”

“Time”—a precious commodity today.
We all have it, but do we all give it.
I want to take this opportunity to say
thank you to all of you who give of your
“time” whether it be to or for someone,
a friend, relative, or for your church. I
truly am grateful for the **“time”** you
donate bodily, financially, or
spiritually. I say Thank you.

Servants of Immanuel

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Editor: Madeline Zindrick
Moderator: Becky Merwin—275-3071
Music Director: Nancy Rasmussen
Hand Bell Director: Melany Christenson
Organist: David Rasmussen
Lydia’s Helpers: Wednesdays—9am-Noon

**Happy New Year
Everyone!**