

THE LAMPLIGHTER

Immanuel

United Church of Christ

111 Fremont St., P.O. Box 209

Walworth, WI 53184

Worship services 9 a. m.

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

February 2010

Moderator’s Moment

The New Year is upon us and we have a golden opportunity to define who we are and how we are going to move forward into the next decade. I want to thank all those who expressed their views during the discussion at the annual meeting. The next step in our discussion needs to clearly define what the responsibilities of a part time, versus full-time pastor will be. Given this information we can then move forward in hiring an interim pastor who will then understand what we expect of them. We can not expect 40 hours of productivity in 20 hours, and there will be some things a full time pastor would be doing which are not going to be done.

Please give all of this some thought, so that as we meet in our Committees and as Administrative Board, and again in an open forum on **Sunday February 14** after the worship service, so we can discuss exactly where we would like to go.

See you in church the 14th,
Peter Gordon

Important Dates to Remember

Jan. 25—Ad Board—7pm

Feb. 2—Deacons—6pm

Feb. 7—Communion

Feb. 10—Confirmation—6pm

Feb. 16—Trustees—7pm

Feb. 17—Ash Wednesday

Feb. 22—CE—6pm, Ad Board—7pm

Mar. 2—Deacons—6pm

Mar. 7—Communion

Mar. 10—Lenten Service here 7pm—Soup & bread supper at 6pm

Newsletter articles are due in the office by the 17th of each month. If you wish to have something printed in the Lamplighter you may either call the office with information or e-mail it to the church.

Bad Weather

***If church is to be cancelled
due to bad weather—you will
be called.***

We have sign up sheets in the back of the church for you to volunteer for being a Greeter, Usher, Liturgist, Coffee Hour or for Flowers. You may also call the office and let Madeline know if you can volunteer. Thank you.

Administrative Board Minutes **December 28, 2009**

Moderator Bob Rauland called the meeting of the Administrative Board to order at 7:02pm, on Monday, Dec. 28th. Present in addition to Bob: Peter Gordon—Asst. Moderator/Stewardship, Judy Gildemeister—Music, Andy Pearce—Trustees, Becky Merwin—Pastoral Relations, Jack Meredith, Gary Ruskell—Treasurer, Madeline Zindrick—Clerk. Bob opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: The minutes from the last board meeting were approved on a Gordon/Pearce motion.

Moderator's Minute: The services for the past 6 weeks have been outstanding and what Immanuel used to be. We are finally realizing who we are.

Treasurer: We ended November with a balance of \$5,903.15. We won't have to borrow any money through the end of the year. There's \$50.96 from interest in the Endowment that Stewardship will decide for disbursement. The treasurer's report was accepted on a Pearce/Gordon motion.

Trustees: The sinks in the kitchen are fixed and are in the right order of hot & cold now, too. Three benches were ordered for the Food Pantry and the shelving has arrived as well. The budget will need to be adjusted at the annual meeting to reflect the cost for an interim minister.

Diaconate: No report.

CE: No report.

Music: We were just a bit disappointed we had no Christmas Eve services because of the power outage. Nancy has chosen hymns for January.

Stewardship: No report.

Pastoral Relations: Becky made some calls to people that have not been here. We need to start visiting our shut-ins and taking them communion, and maybe that can be part of Immanuel Cares, too. Bob has called on 5 people so far. Peter had brought up **New Business:** Calling Post as an option for us to use in the event of cancellations or meeting announcements as well. Madeline was authorized to set it up and Peter will donate \$50 to cover our first set of calls needed. Our meeting with Dr. Karen King was very enlightening. We know the people in our community better than the UCC does. We're interested in part-time ministry at this time for service every Sunday. Judy wasn't sure we

need to have someone every Sunday. She likes the fact that we've done well within our own ranks of filling the pulpit. Whatever we do it should be temporary before we sign them up for six months. We should address this at the annual meeting. Send a letter out to membership before the annual meeting. We'd like them to submit their thoughts as what's to happen—a survey perhaps. We recognize our financial circumstances don't allow us for full time leadership at this time. What does the congregation want? Come to the meeting and speak out or submit something in writing if you can't be here. Andy wanted to make sure the Homeless Shelter was on the agenda, too. Next Ad Board meeting is Monday, January 25th at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned on a Gordon/Pearce motion at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeline Zindrick—Clerk



Myrl Nash passed away on Jan. 9th. Services were held at Immanuel with Pastor Elizabeth Hazel officiating. Our deepest sympathy to the family.

Thank You!

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel,

Please accept my sincere thanks and God's blessings for the Christmas gift. Both the thought and the gift made me very happy.

Brenda Wenger

Dear Immanuel Members,

Thank you for your continued support of the Food Pantry. We truly appreciate your donations you've given throughout the year. God Bless you all.

Sincerely,
Madeline Zindrick—Site Coordinator

Dear Immanuel,

A sincere "thank you" to Immanuel for the Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Happy New Year!
Melany Christenson

Dear Immanuel Family,

It was a great privilege to receive the Good Samaritan Award at the Annual Meeting. I was quite surprised to say the least. Thank you so much for the honor.

Madeline Zindrick

To the Volunteers who rang a bell for the Salvation Army:

Thanks to all who helped support the Salvation Army this Christmas Season. Your efforts exceeded last year's record by about \$400.00. The total for this year will be near \$6,850.00.

Groups that helped this year include: Walworth-Fontana Rotary Club, Fontana Community Church, Williams Bay Lutheran Church, Grace Free Church—Walworth, Linn Presbyterian Church, Big Foot Lions Club, Faith Lutheran Church-Walworth, Full Gospel Church-Walworth, Williams Bay UCC Congregational Church, Walworth Immanuel UCC Church, Walworth Cub/Boy Scout Troop 234, St. Benedict Catholic Church-Fontana, Brick Church-Walworth, Lakeland Animal Welfare Society, and Big Foot High School National Honor Society.

Thanks for a great year of ringing. Hope to see you again next year. If there is another group in the area that might help us, please let me know whom to contact.

God Bless!

Gary Ruskell
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Dear Community Members, Parents, and Teachers,

We would like to send a sincere thank you to all of Santa's elves who donated to the "Christmas for Kids" program at Walworth Elementary and Middle School. It has been our pleasure in working with you to help children have a wonderful Christmas right here in our community.

Many of our families continue with financial difficulty. They are struggling with loss of employment, low wages, the high cost of housing, etc. Often, families use what little

money they have left to make sure food is on the table and children are clothed.

This year, because of your generosity, we have made a difference in so many children's lives. With your help, we gave 143 children a fantastic Christmas. Please be assured that you did make a difference during this Holiday Season! Again, thank you for your heart-felt donation for the children in the Walworth community.

Sincerely,

Lee Knoble-Janney & Jennifer Ott-Wilson
Walworth Elementary School Counselors

Dear Immanuel United Church of Christ,

Thank you very much for your continued support in our efforts to help the poverty-stricken. With your donation from November for \$259.00, which was matched by an additional \$259 from our matching grant, you have provided the following:

\$300—helped provide assistance to a single mother in need of help with her rent.

\$150—helped provide assistance to many in need of help with everyday household necessities. They were able to receive pots, small appliances, pans, dishes, utensils, mops, buckets, brooms, and cleaning agents.

\$68—has provided assistance with toiletry items such as toilet paper, bath soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and other everyday necessities to many in need.

Our continuing goal is to make sure every cent donated to The Time is Now to Help is utilized to buy goods and services, such as food, clothing, utilities, toiletries, household necessities, and shelter assistance to help the extremely poverty-stricken live more comfortably, making their quality of life better, and remove their pain and suffering. It is people like you who make the burden of being poor a little easier. Alone, I cannot financially help all those I have located in poverty.

Health and Happiness,
God Bless,
Sal Dimiceli, Sr.—President

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your generous contribution—especially appreciated in this challenging economy. Thanks to caring donors like you, Church World Service can provide food, water and other necessities to families displaced by war or natural disaster. And with your help, we can also assist impoverished communities as they work to improve their farming techniques, develop reliable water sources, and build a more sustainable future.

While these are sobering days, I remain hopeful because of the creative, resilient men and women we assist around the world, and because of caring people like you, who empower us to act on your behalf in our wounded world. May God bless you for your compassionate support.

Faithfully yours,
Rev. John L. McCullough
Executive Director and CEO

Dear Immanuel Family,

Thank you for all the cards sent, concerns expressed, and prayers said for Tim and our family during and after his heart valve surgery. It really means a lot to know we have a church family there for us when we need it.

And thank you to Lydia's Helpers for the wonderful quilt you made for Tim. It was perfect.

Tim and Laura Kolnik

Dear Immanuel and Friends,

We would like to thank you for your recent gift to support Community Action's Twin Oaks Shelter. Your gift helps us accomplish our mission: *to provide access and opportunity for those we serve and those who support our efforts. Through innovative programs and strong community*

partnerships we eliminate barriers, establishing clear pathways to economic self-reliance. Community Action's model is one of helping people help themselves by building their skills, assets, knowledge, and self-esteem, rather than giving one-time fixes or handouts. The contributions of you and other friends are truly indispensable in accomplishing this important work.

We thank you for your gift that will help make a real, positive impact in the lives of many among us.

At Community Action, we are more dedicated than ever to helping our communities succeed, and we thank you once again for being part of our circle of friends who help make our mission a reality.

With deep gratitude,
Lisa Furseth—Ex. Dir.



February Birthdays

- 3**—Austin Morgan
- 8**—Jeremy DeVries
- 11**—Dennis Boldger
- 13**—Ruth Galauner
- 16**—Bruce Swanson
Lindsey Kolnik
Trista DeVries
- 17**—Mary Zemblowski
- 18**—Kaylee Kolnik
- 20**—Anne Rasmussen
- 21**—Ken Pagel
- 23**—Audrey Mathews
- 29**—Kelly Davis



February Anniversaries

- 14**—Joe & Lucy Abell
- 16**—Sol & Mary Klein
- 19**—John & Marion Blow

St. Benedict's Friday Fish Fry

The four churches that participate in VBS together will be volunteering to work one of the Fish Fry's at St. Ben's this year to offset the cost of VBS. We are required to have between 5-10 volunteers to work it, plus bake desserts for it. We will need approximately 10 desserts, cakes, bars, cookies, or cupcakes. The sign up sheet will be in the back of the church, or you can call or e-mail Madeline at the office if you wish to volunteer. Our date to work is March 19th.

**A Study of the Gospel of Luke – Chapters
11,12,13 & 14**

Jesus prayed as a regular practice. **Luke chapter 11** begins with, “*One day Jesus was praying*”... the disciples asked to be taught how to pray. In this chapter, we are given an abbreviated version of the Lord’s prayer with additional instruction in the form of a parable. (The complete prayer as we know it today is in Matthew 6:9-13.) In the story of the friend knocking on the door late at night, Jesus is urging believers to come to God with boldness; be persistent with your petitions; God does answer prayer. Jesus continues to be questioned and mistrusted by the Pharisees, who accuse him of casting out demons by the power of Satan. Because they did not believe in spite of all the miracles of healing that Jesus performed and His teaching, the Pharisees continued to ask for more proof that Jesus was the Messiah.

The crowds increased but there were many who did not believe. Jesus calls this a wicked generation. Although they have been given an even greater sign than Jonah, they did not repent and believe as the men of Nineveh did. The eyes are the lamp of the body. If you are in spiritual darkness, you do not need more light, more proof of God; you need better eyes, stronger faith, to see the light. This was told to the Pharisees because they continued to ask for more signs while refusing to accept what they were seeing as being from God.

In response to a Pharisee who was surprised that Jesus did not follow the traditional cleansing ritual added by the Pharisees, Jesus listed six “woes” or warnings concerning current religious practices.

1. You give a tenth, but you neglect justice and the love of God.
2. You love self-importance.
3. You are like unmarked graves; you defile others without their knowing with your false teaching.
4. You give people impossible burdens to bear with strict rules and do nothing to help them.
5. You pretend to honor the prophets, but reject the one they prophesied about.
6. By not believing yourself, you take from others the opportunity to know God.

These strong criticisms increased the opposition from the teachers of the law, and they watched and waited to catch Him in something He might say.

Chapter 12 begins with warnings and encouragement for the disciples. They are warned that they are being watched; nothing is secret, but are told not to be afraid because they are very important to God. The Holy Spirit will give them words to speak when they appear in front of the authorities. The parable of the rich fool warns us not to be so wrapped up in earthly concerns that we neglect our spiritual life. Do not worry, your Heavenly Father knows you need clothing and food and shelter. Have faith and believe. These things will be provided. Be watchful; do not neglect things of the spirit. You do not know when your end will come. There will be judgment for those who know the word of God, but do not live according to it. Jesus talks about the baptism he will have to undergo; His death on the cross; and warns His followers that they will be facing divisions in families for His sake.

In chapter 13, Jesus tells the parable of the fig tree to explain that outward appearance does not show the condition of the heart. The belief at that time was that if something bad happened to someone, they must have sinned in some way. Jesus warns that we are all sinners, and without repentance and forgiveness we will all perish. The fig tree that did not bear fruit is the nation of Israel, or a person who has heard the Word of God, but has not changed as a result. Through grace, God gives us another chance; “*leave it alone for one more year*”, but eventually, if we do not bear fruit, we will be cut down. Jesus continues to heal on the Sabbath Day, and confronts those who criticize Him. The “Kingdom of God” is mentioned over thirty times in the Gospel of Luke. Here it is compared to a mustard seed and yeast, because it starts as a small thing in the hearts of a few and quickly spreads to fill the hearts of a multitude. Not everyone will be saved. Make every effort to enter through the narrow door. If you do not know God, you will knock, and the door will not be opened. Some of the Pharisees warned Jesus to leave Jerusalem because Herod was trying to kill him. Jesus expresses sorrow for Jerusalem, but will not leave because His work is not finished.

Chapter 14 begins with another healing on the Sabbath day. Jesus was being watched

carefully by the Pharisees. As they sat down to eat at the table, he saw the guests picking places of honor at the table and gave them a lesson in humility. Do not consider yourself more important than anyone else in the room. The host may consider someone else more important and you will be embarrassed by being asked to move to a lower position. Rather, consider yourself the lowest, that you will be honored by being placed higher. Also do not host dinners, (treat kindly, or help out) for those who can invite you in return, rather invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind, and then you will be truly blessed. When you are invited to become part of the fellowship of God be ready, go at once. If you do not, the invitation will be withdrawn, and you will no longer be welcome in the house of God. The cost of being a disciple may be great. You can not love anything or anyone more than God. If you are more concerned about your own well being than the will of God, you cannot be a disciple. Hear the Word of the Lord; let the light of God shine in your heart; bear good fruit.

Please join us for discussion of Luke chapters 11, 12, 13 and 14, on Sunday January 31st at 8:00 AM in the Marion Krause room.

In the month of February, continue to read Luke chapters 15, 16, 17 and 18. We will meet to discuss them on February 28th.

The peace of Christ be with you,
Diana Bromeland
Leader of the Adult Bible Study

Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday service will be at Fontana Community Church, February 17th at 7pm.

There will be other Lenten services on Wed., Mar. 10—Walworth, Wed., Mar. 17—Wms. Bay, Wed., Mar. 24—Lake Geneva. A Soup & Bread Supper will proceed all Wednesday Lenten services at 6pm and service at 7pm.

Good Friday service will be at Fontana Community Church, April 2nd at 7pm.

Servants of Immanuel

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Hand Bell Director: Melany Christenson

Organist: David Rasmussen

Lydia's Helpers: Wednesdays—9am-Noon