



Immanuel News

Immanuel United Church of Christ

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Find us on Facebook

Instagram [Immanuel.Ferguson](https://www.instagram.com/Immanuel.Ferguson)

August 2022 E-Newsletter

Office Staff:

Deon McKenzie, Transitional Pastor

Jennifer Jansen, Financial Manager

Debbie Bahr, Property Manager

Leanne Casey, Administrative Assistant

Derick and Lynn Winterberg, Youth Directors

Linda Stoecklin, Parish Nurse

Carolyn Rock, Music Coordinator

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm



Lonely, But Not Alone

John 16:28-33

We all can feel lonely at times, especially after the long period of pandemic and quarantine. But the truth is, we are never alone. Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit to comfort us. So, loneliness should be a time to become acquainted with God.

When I worked in corporate America, as a new employee there were times I felt alone. Once or twice a year all the employees (new and old) would gather for a relationship building exercise. The goal of the exercise is to bring everyone together as a team.

Likewise, your time of loneliness affords you the opportunity to link up with team Jesus.

Jesus said, John 16:32, The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me.

Only those who abide in the presence of God can go through circumstances of life alone, and yet not be lonely.

The Apostle Paul also knew the pain of loneliness! After years of faithful service to the Lord, he found himself in a dark Roman prison. In his hour of need, many abandoned him. But the Lord stood with him and strengthened him. The Lord is always with us even if we cannot see Him.

The Psalmist said, "Even if my mother and father left me alone, the Lord would take me in." Even when those closest to us abandon us in our darkest hours, God will remain with us.

David said, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me." Psalm 23:4

Loneliness makes you feel isolated, overlooked, unloved, deserted, useless, and unwanted.

Sometimes you can be surrounded by crowds of people, yet still be lonely.

Many times, loneliness results from a crisis due to the death of a loved one, a divorce, or a separation. You have tried to have friends, but countless times facing rejection. So, a deep inner wound develops.

Loneliness leads to insecurity. An insecure person has no sense of self-worth. So, they build walls and close themselves in. Sadly, loneliness can lead to sorrow, loss and tragedy.

In this time of social and physical distancing, we may be isolated, but we are never alone! The Lord God is always with us.

We need to recognize the presence of God. The Lord is right there beside you and me when you are alone.

But we are never alone! The Lord God is always with us. We need to recognize the presence of God. The Lord is right there beside you and me when you are alone.

So, my friends, use your time well.

Loneliness tends to demoralize us if we just sit around and do nothing! Often, lonely people don't take care of themselves. If you're lonely, utilize your time. Resist the temptation to do nothing. Don't fill your time with empty and meaningless things that play on your soul and intensify your loneliness.

Hebrews 13:5b. Say, "After all, God has said, I will never leave you or abandon you."

So let me encourage and challenge us, to spend time resting in God's presence. Take time to seek God. Invite God into your life. Meditate on the Word. Let it fill your heart with faith. Live with a continuous attitude of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. Separate from everything and anything that will keep you from God's love and presence.

Pastor Deon A. McKenzie

IMMANUEL UCC



CHURCH COUNCIL

Immanuel Church Council Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2022

Devotional: Prayer of peace offered by Nancy

Minutes: The minutes from the regular June council meeting were accepted by acclamation.

Financial Reports: Paula & Doug

Attendance: In-person attendance averaged 54.

Year to Date income relative to YTD budget was -44%

The income for June was \$20,200.

Total Fund Balance as of May was \$2,133,661 a \$112,641 decrease.

The June financial reports were reviewed and approved. [Darrell / Nancy 2nd].

Pastor Report: Pastor Deon

Recovering from COVID

Memorial services for Vortmeier July 30th and White August 27th

30 Children in UP this summer

VBS was a success. Thank-you to the volunteers

Focus in the future for Immanuel will be for outreach

Performing member visits

Committee Reports

Property and Grounds: Don

Sanctuary carpet repaired, kitchen awning stitched and reinstalled, hole in driveway pavement repaired with hot patch

Received bids for Ed. Bldg. roof inspection and preventive maintenance. Motion to hire Beal Roofing to perform semi-annual service [Paula / Julie 2nd] Motion passed

Need quote for Reception room women's restroom vent fan.

Need bids to remove dead tree in front of parsonage and remove overgrown shrubbery.

Need a protective grate to cover sump under elevator

Still need to get a bid to fix the organ chamber ceiling after the pipes have been removed by Wickes (another \$10,000 expense)

Board of C.E: Paula

Rally Day is being chosen for September

Youth mission trip to be help locally in partnership with St. Peters.

Stewardship: Paula

No report.

CIA (Christians in Action) - (formerly Parish Life/Evangelism): Nancy

- Meeting next Tuesday
- Attended PROUD meeting

Mission Possible (formerly Mission Outreach): Julie

- Habitat for Humanity is August 13th
- ECH Totes for Christmas have been purchased

Worship Committee: Teddy

- Next meeting will be August 14th.

Policy and Personnel: Darrell

- Leanne will be leaving in August to be with family
- Administrative assistant job is being posted
- A Policy and Personnel meeting to be scheduled

Nominating Committee: Paula / Darrell.

- Paula and Darrell will initiate at August Council meeting. Council members will suggestion names that will be used to form a nominating committee.

Budget and Finance: Doug

- No report.

Technology: Don

- Still working on functionality of Instagram account. Suggestion to ask Derick to start new account and/or to ask Holly Johnson for assistance.

Investments: Paula

- No report

Unfinished Business

- UP Summer camp going through July 29
- Need quote for security services
- We are now in a Period of Discernment. Damien Lake has suggested that we allow Pastor Deon time to get familiar with our church and that we consider forming a search committee in late fall.
- Web page training ongoing with Holly Johnson
- Charlie will be out of town and calling in for the August meeting. Don will plan to lead the meeting in Charlie's absence.

New Business

Signage for church to be more inviting. Motion to spend up to \$500 for sign.
(Julie/Teddy 2nd)

FYI – Scholarship Committee Meeting Thursday July 14

Wurstmarkt discussions (issues for 2022: food safety changes, volunteers, costs)

Chamber of Commerce – Renewal \$77 due July 12, 2022

Membership Task Force – open discussion. Focus question: what are we capable of doing?

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer at 10:00 pm, [Everyone/Everyone 2nd]

[Note: COVID-19 masks are still optional in all buildings and encouraged around our older and immunity compromised members. Thanks for keeping everyone safe.]

Phil Frohne

BOARD OF



CHRISTIAN ED

Board of Christian Education Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Board of Christian Education Meeting

The Board didn't meet in July. There are not any meeting minutes to report.



Scholarship Recipients

There will be an Ice-cream fellowship for college students and anyone else who would like to attend at **Andy's Frozen Custard** on **August 8th at 8pm** in **Maryland Heights on Dorsett.**



Please come join the Bon Appetite group on **August 20 at 4:00pm** at **Lombardo's Family of Restaurants , 10488 Natural Bridge Rd, St. Louis, MO 63134.** Please **RSVP** to Joan Newman at **314-837-5350.** by **Monday, August 15th.**

All are welcome!

2022 Calendar

Bon Appetit Group!

Date	Host
JUNE 25, 4:30 P.M. Sports Café 3579 Pennridge Dr. Bridgeton, Mo	RSVP to Glenn & Shirley Cordes
JULY 9, 6:30 P.M. Home	Paula & George Hildebrand
August 21 TBA	Joan Newman
SEPTEMBER 17 TBA	Robin & Doug Daniels
OCTOBER TBA	Sandra Morello
November 13 time to be determined	Bill Wooten & co host
DECEMBER TBA	Hildebrand's



PRAYER AND SHARE

Prayer and Share meets on the Second and Fourth Wednesday of each month in the library at 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our group is small but we would welcome anyone who would like to join us. In addition, we usually have lunch together at a near-by restaurant following the meeting.

The North County Inter-Faith Dialogue Group

The North County Interfaith Dialogue Group will meet on **Sunday, August 21, 2022 from 2 to 4 p.m.** The group will meet in the Fireside Room in the lower level of the Education Building. Janet Klutho a member of the Baha'i Faith will be our presenter.

Contact person: Nancy Remmert 314.522.3718



CHRISTIANS IN ACTION (CIA)

Get ready to enjoy! CIA is planning a Biscuit, Gravy and Sausage Breakfast. It will be held in connection with Rally Day, the Board of Christian Education will be setting the date.

Get ready to help! CIA will be assembling Blessing Bags at their November meeting. In the mean time, you can help us gather the items that are included in the Blessing Bags. Please place the items you are willing to donate in the collection box in the Narthex.

List of items: Gallon Size Ziploc Bags, Bottled water (small size), Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap, Deodorant, Combs, Beef Jerky Sticks, Granola Bars, Energy Bars, Cheese and Cracker Packs, Crackers and Peanut packs, Trail Mix, Raisins, Peanuts, Gum or Hard Candy.

Many of these same items can be used in the Blessing Box on the Education Building Lawn or on the supply shelf on the lower level near the Church Street door to the Education Building. **Please remember items should be individually wrapped and need no prepration.**



HABITAT IS BACK!

After a 2-year absence due to COVID, Habitat is back. We are working on possible work dates including: August 13th, September 10th, October 8th, November 5th and December 3rd. We need a maximum of 8 workers. Please call Tim Guethler to discuss your availability 314-961-3230. Thank you!



Immanuel Recognized for Volunteer Service
In June Immanuel UCC was recognized at a Room at the Inn Volunteer Appreciation Banquet for 27 years of service to families in distress. Room at the Inn presented us with a beautiful award. It's on display in the church's entryway. Forty-nine churches



Dear Immanuel,

Thank you for the "Get Well Cards", Prayers, Emails, while we were recuperating from Covid. Also for a couple of medications. I didn't have time to prepare.

Al and I are very grateful for our Immanuel Family

Sincerely,

Shirley & Al

were recognized that evening. Immanuel is one of the longest serving volunteers.

Thanks to everyone who has supported Room at the Inn over the years. You may have provided food for the evening meal or breakfast. Possibly you did the laundry so someone could have clean bedding. Maybe you were our innkeeper and spent the night at the church. So many Immanuel members have helped provide an enjoyable time at the church for our brothers and sisters who don't have a permanent home.

In August there will be a Mission Moment about some exciting things that are happening at Room at the Inn. There are many ways we can continue to help them in their important ministry.



GREAT NEWS!

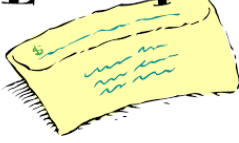
Nancy Reidy will be available to do blood pressure screenings on the first Sunday of each month. This will take place at 9:00am before service in the Archive Room.

The deadline for the September newsletter is Thursday,

August 18th 2022 Thank you!

Don't forget to like and share Immanuel on Facebook!

Offering Envelopes



If you would like your offering envelopes mailed to you please contact the Church Office.

You can also mail in your offerings using a “regular” envelope. All we need is your name and a memo on how to direct the funds (i.e. offering, memorial, etc.).

Thank you!



As we continue to navigate through life because of COVID-19 please keep all of our members in your thoughts and prayers.



Immanuel offers the option to listen to the latest church service by calling 314-255-1873



August Birthdays

Sam Valent	8/1
Ryan Schuster	8/3
Gunnar Oelzen	8/6
Sue Schuster	8/6
Joanne Schneider	8/6
Kurt Thies	8/9
Bonnie Heenan	8/9
Greg Conrad	
Emma Klasing	
Derick Winterberg	8/15
Jan Fettig	
Carlos Trejo	
Blaine Kohler	
Ellen Klasing	
Don Morice	
Emily Burke	
Rebekah Lipski	

If you can't join us for in-person worship, please visit Immanuel's Facebook page for live on-line streaming of our church services. Immanuel also offers the option to listen to the latest church service by calling 314-255-1873.



Coffee hour will be **BEFORE AND AFTER** church.

Donuts, coffee and orange juice will be available from **9 am** until start of church service at **9:30** AND then start back up at **10:30** until **11:30**.

If you want to help - pick up donuts, set up or clean up, please **contact Cathy Miller (618.560.9211) or Charlie Miller (618.560.9222)**, text or phone calls, or if you need to email, contact us at cmiller52@charter.net

Thank you, Cathy and Charlie Miller, Worship Committee CoChairs



August Schedule

August 7 - Joan Newman

August 14 - Nancy Remmert

August 21 - Beverly Dow

August 28 - Joan Newman



If you would like to be a lay reader during the months of May and June and have not requested a link to the scheduling list please call or email the office and we will give you online access to sign up!

Thank you!

314-521-7324

Immanueloffice@immanuelucc.org



If you would like to order flowers for & September & October, please call the Church Office.

We have several available Sundays.

August Schedule:

August 7th: Okley Mckinley & Ken Bick

August 14th:

August 21st:

August 28t:

Thank you!

MEMORIALS
&
HONORARIUMS



Memorials and Honorariums

In Honor of

Brad Snead

To Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship

Given By: The Klasings

IMMANUEL UCC - MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFT FORM

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

- To:** _____ Immanuel General Fund
_____ Every Child's Hope "ECH" OPERATING FUND
_____ Emmaus Homes-OPERATING FUND
_____ Emmaus Homes-PASTORAL CARE FUND
_____ Emmaus Homes-ENDOWMENT FUND
_____ The Friends Foundation (formerly "Friends of Emmaus")
_____ Immanuel Building and Capital Improvement Fund
_____ Immanuel Endowment Fund
_____ Immanuel Good Samaritan Fund
_____ Immanuel Brothers' In Christ Fund
_____ Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship Fund
_____ Brauch Scholarship Fund
_____ Mary Thompson Scholarship Fund
_____ Music Enhancement Fund
_____ Eden Theological Seminary
_____ Unleashing Potential (formerly Neighborhood Houses)
_____ Parish Nurse Fund
_____ Camp Scholarship Fund
_____ Bell Choir Fund *CK # _____
_____ Organ Fund
_____ Heritage Fund *AMT \$ _____
_____ Accessibility Fund
_____ Habitat for Humanity *ENV # _____
_____ Discretionary Assistance Fund
_____ Other

FROM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ **ZIP** _____

ACKNOWLEDGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **ZIP** _____

Put in Newsletter _____ Do NOT put in Newsletter _____

*Office Use

