



# IMMANUEL NEWS

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## July 2023 Newsletter



### Staff:

Rev. Deon A. McKenzie, Pastor  
Debbie Bahr, Property Manager  
Jennifer Jansen, Financial Manager  
Linda Stoecklin, Parish Nurse  
Derick Winterberg, Technology

## From our Pastor

Happy Independence Day!

As we prepare to celebrate the independence of the thirteen North American colonies from under the British Empire rule, take time to pause and remember that all Americans were not included.

The Congress of 1776 unanimously voted that the colonies should be a free and independent state. On July 4 of the same year, the declaration of Independence was written; it states:

*“We solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right, ought to be free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to British Crown; and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, dissolved.”*

Unfortunately, the freedom gained by this action did not benefit enslaved African Americans. Black people were denied all their rights as human beings and were considered property and were subjected to years of chattel slavery. For decades slavery became the economic engine of the south. The profits from cotton propelled the US into a position as one of the leading economies in the world and made the South its most prosperous region. The ownership of enslaved African Americans increased wealth for Southern planters so much that by the dawn of the Civil War, the Mississippi River Valley had more millionaires per capita than any other region.

Independence Day celebration is not a part of the narrative for black people. Fredrick Douglas said in a speech on July 5, 1852, titled, *“What To The Slave, Is The Fourth Of July?”*

## From our Pastor

"I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of this glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice, are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity, and independence, bequeathed by your fathers is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought life and healing to you, has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth of July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn..."

Sadly, my friends we live in a society that continue to perpetrate hate and division. I applaud the recognition of Juneteenth, but the detail of that event is mind boggling. So, the bottom line is we still have work to do, and as Christians we are to model after Jesus Christ and share love between each other. Scripture reminds us in 2 Chronicle 7:14, *"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*

***Pastor Deon***

# Church Council

Minutes of the Church Council Meeting  
June 13, 2023

Present: Doug Daniels, Karl Klasing, Julie Guethler (on Zoom)  
Nancy Remmert, Charlie Miller, Walter Martinez, Don Morice,  
Charlie Wolfersberger, Pastor Deon McKenzie.

Absent: John Bogdajewicz

Meeting was called to order by President Charlie Miller at 7:05 p.m. Nancy Remmert offered a devotion.

Minutes were reviewed and one correction in the Mission Possible report was made (Guethler instead of Payer). It was moved and seconded (Don Morice/Charlie Wolfersberger) to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

Karl Klasing and Doug Daniels gave the financial reports. It was moved and seconded (Don Morice/Nancy Remmert) that the reports be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

## **PASTOR DEON'S REPORT**

Deon reported that he has been reviewing the activities of the congregation in view of our stated mission. He has been in touch with the home-bound members. He reminded us (and other congregants) to also to be in touch with members who may not be in regular worship attendance by phone, text, email or cards.

## **PROPERTY AND GROUNDS**

Charlie Miller and Don Morice have been working together on this Committee. There have been issues with air conditioners in both buildings. UP has been temporarily using available rooms that are cooler. If the weather gets very warm, other solutions will need to be considered. There has been a delay in installing the AC unit because of supply chain issues. If all goes well, it should be installed in the Education Building in late June.

## Church Council Cont'd

The AC unit in the Sanctuary building also needs repairs or replacement. After discussion, it was moved and seconded (Nancy Remmert/Karl Klasing) that we accept the bid of \$13,293.00 to replace the unit from Bermuda Heating and Cooling Company. They have a unit in stock and it can be installed as soon as possible. The motion passed with a vote of 6 to 2.

Don Morice reported that they are requesting bids on installing panic bars on the Sanctuary building doors as a safety and security issue.

The church as had a request from David United Church of Christ in Ohio for us to host a Youth Work Group who will be in the building beginning Saturday, June 17 through Wednesday, June 21. They will use the Youth Room, the Fireside Room and showers, etc. on the first floor. It was moved and seconded (Karl Klasing and Charlie Wolfersberger) that we approve this building use. Motion passed. Doug Daniels will be at the church to welcome the group on Saturday.

Don Morice reported that the previously approved sealing and striping of both parking lots will be done August 7 through 11. by St. Louis Paving.

John Beal Roofing will do the previously approved cleaning, inspecting and minor repairs on the Sanctuary building gutters and tuckpointing.

Cleaning and sanitizing the ice machines in both buildings will be done in September.

### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Following Secretary's and Treasurer's reports and the Church Council Report, Pastor Deon reported July 9, 2023 will be the "New Members Class" after Worship Service.

## Church Council Cont'd

The Church received a resume for the music position, it was passed to the search committee. A discussion was held regarding the youth and worship services. No conclusions were reported.

Sara Klasing reported having enough adult volunteers for VBS. She may try to recruit some school age volunteers. She needs to know possible attendance at VBS. Permission Slips for the youth were approved. John Viehmann will print copies for distribution.

Tony Wright will be contacted to set the date for beginning the Confirmation Class. There should be 5 or 6 children participating in the class.

Rally Day date has not been finalized. Activities on that date are under discussion.

Plans to celebrate Scholarship Day with an Ice Cream Truck will be July 23.

The Youth Director Job Description is almost complete.

### **MISSION POSSIBLE**

Julie Guethler reported that the Habitat for Humanity Work Day is in August.

Grab and Go items are need for the Blessing Box. Jeff Remmert is making a new Blessing Box since the other one was damaged. The new box will be placed at the end of the side walk on the Education Building lawn for easy access. Mission Possible was able to give a bicycle to a 16 yr. old who was very happy to receive it. His family was at Room at the Inn for several months before moving into permanent housing.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Charlie Wolfersberger and Julie Guethler will form a committee in July to begin the process of assembling a list of candidates for Council to be presented at the Annual meeting.

# Church Council Cont'd

## **COMMITTEES NOT REPORTING AT THIS TIME**

Stewardship, Budget and Finance, Technology, and Investments.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Safety Plan: Panic Bars on Sanctuary doors is part of this plan. At the August meeting council will evaluate the emergency evacuation plan and prepare copies for the congregation.

Renegotiating the UP contract: They will be holding camp all of June and July and a flat rate for the summer program was established. This will be reviewed again when the Fall sessions begin.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Karl Klasing reported that the former Bowling League has money remaining in their treasury. They will be donating it to the church to purchase new carts for the kitchen

It was suggested that a Policy be developed establishing a dollar amount for repairs, etc. which would require more than one bid, and how emergency expenditures would be handled.

The Council suspended regular business to go into Executive Session at 8:56 p.m.

No further business appearing, Council resumed at 9:10 p.m. and adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Nancy Remmert reported that she will be out of town at the time of the July Council Meeting. Someone will need to take the minutes for her.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Remmert, Secretary

# Board of Christian Education

## **JUNE 6, 2023 BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Laura Payer, Kathi Remmert, Jennifer Jansen, George Hildebrand, Council Rep John Bogdajewicz, John Viehmann, and Pastor Deon McKenzie.

**DEVOTION:** Read by Kathi from the UCC Devotional about "Collective Gifts".

**REPORTS:** Secretary's Report from April and May approved. Treasurer's Report approved. Monies spent for VBS.

**VBS:** Volunteers secured for storytelling, music, and decorations. May have to adjust rooms due to air conditioner issues. Sarah Klasing is the main contact.

**RALLY DAY:** will be an ALL CHURCH event in August. Possible food trucks. Tables will be set up with presentations given about church activities and groups offered. Fourth grade Bibles will be presented. Confirmand parents will meet with Tony Wright.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS WILL BE ON JULY 23.**

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION WILL BE SUNDAY JULY 9TH, FOLLOWING 9:30 AM SERVICE.**

Pastor Deon will have a class on "Spiritual Gifts" in the future.

**YOUTH DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION:** Continues to be worked on by Board of Christian Ed.

All Immanuel members are welcome to attend Board of Christian Education meetings held every 1st Tuesday of the month, in the library of the education bldg.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Payer

# **SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP.....**

## **ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION**

The Adult Faith Exploration group meets on the first and third Sundays of each month in the Reception Room immediately following worship.

## **DONUTS WITH PASTOR DEON**

Donuts with Pastor Deon is every second and fourth Sunday of the month. Please join him for an informal chat. If you have comments, questions, or would like clarity following the sermon, come downstairs, grab a donut, coffee and a seat to talk with Pastor Deon.



## **COFFEE HOUR**

Every Sunday before and after worship. Before worship from 9:00-9:30a.m. and after worship from 10:30-11:30a.m.

Enjoy coffee and donuts!

## **INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**

The next Interfaith Dialogue meeting is Sunday, July 16 from 2-4pm.





## **IMMANUEL FELLOWSHIP MEETING**

Immanuel Fellowship meets on the First Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. in the Reception Room (the lower level of the Sanctuary building). There is always time for fellowship, an interesting program and a delicious meal. Everyone is welcome.

On July 6, 2023 our program will be presented by a representative from Every Child's Hope (formally Evangelical Childrens Home). They will bring us up-to-date on what is happening there and what plans they have for the future. Lunch will be Chicken and Fixins from Paul's Market. A free will offering is received to defray the cost of the meal.

Blessings, Nancy Remmert, President

## **PRAYER AND SHARE**

Prayer and Share meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in the library of the Education Building at 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our July meetings are July 12 and 26.

## **BLESSING BOX**

Our supplies for the Blessing Box are running low. Please consider donating food items that are easy to open and will provide a good snack for our brothers and sisters in need. Or you can make a donation to Mission Possible and the committee will purchase food items for the Blessing Box. If you have any questions please call Melinda Schuster (314-323-5957).

## **MISSION POSSIBLE**

Mission possible with meet July 16 after worship.

*Bon  
Appetit!*

*Bon Appetit  
July 22*

Please join Bon Appetit on Saturday, July 22

Sports Café  
3579 Penridge Dr  
Bridgeton, MO 63044  
5:00pm

Please RSVP to Sandy Morello by July 22  
at 314-291-9917



## 2023 Calendar

Date	Host
July 22, Sports Café, 5pm	Sandy Morello
August	Fran Panagos
September	Teddy Branom
October	Terry & Karen Fox
November	Bogdajewicz
December	Hildebrand



## Calling all Youth

The next youth Sunday is July 30. The youth will help Pastor Deon with the worship service. We will need scripture readers, ushers, and greeters. Please call the Church Office or contact Pastor Deon if you can participate.

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Rally Day is when we highlight our ministries at Immanuel and volunteer for the upcoming year. It is also when we start our Sunday School activities for the fall and recognize our fourth grade students and present them a Bible. Parents - if you have a fourth grade student please contact the Church Office.

Look for more details soon!

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Immanuel campers, Logan Crawshaw and John Bogdajewicz, will be attending Camp Mo-Val this month. Have a fantastic time!

If any youth would like to attend summer camp at Camp Mo-Val, Immanuel will cover 50% of the cost. More information can be found on the Camp Mo-Val website at [www.campmoval.org/camp-info](http://www.campmoval.org/camp-info). Please let the Church Office know if you are interested.

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Confirmation Class  
will begin this Fall.

Tony Wright will be the confirmation teacher. The class will start either in August or September and be held during the worship service. The start date will be announced soon!



## College Students

College scholarship applications are available for the upcoming academic year. Applicants should contact the Church Office for an application and return completed applications by July 9.

There are five scholarships to choose from:

The Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship

The Brauch Memorial Scholarship

The Mary Thompson Nursing/Health Field Scholarship

The Brothers' In Christ Scholarship (Nursing)

The Brothers' in Christ Scholarship (Christian Ministry)

Scholarship awards will be presented on Sunday, July 23. All college applicants should plan to attend the worship service. If there are any questions, please contact the Church Office.



# JULY

	MON	TUE	WED
<b>2</b> Blood Pressure Check Coffee 9-9:30 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Coffee Hour 10:30 Adult Faith Exploration 10:30	3	4 July 4th  Office Closed  	5 Quilters 9
<b>9</b> Coffee 9-9:30 Worship 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 Donuts with Deon 10:30 New members class 10:30  <b>COLLEGE APPLICATIONS DUE</b>	10	11  Scholarship Committee Meeting, 9am, Library Zoom with applicants, 11:00-noon  Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Room 102	12 Quilters 9 Prayer & 10:00 a.m.
16  Coffee 9-9:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 Adult Faith Exploration 10:30 Mission Possible Meet 10:30 Interfaith Dialogue 2-4pm	17	18  Scholarship Committee Zoom with applicants, 10:00-11:30am  Christians in Action Meeting, 7pm, Room 102	19 Quilters 9  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
23 Coffee 9-9:30 and 10:30 Worship 9:30 a.m. College Scholarship Awards Donuts with Deon 10:30	24	25	26 Quilters 9  Prayer & 10:00 a.m.
<hr/> <b>30 *Youth Sunday*</b> Coffee 9-9:30 Worship 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 Grafton River Cruise 2pm	<hr/> 31		Newsletter Assembly

# 2023

	THU	FRI	SAT
			1
a.m.	6 Immanuel Fellowship 11a.m. Reception Rm	7	8
a.m. Share Library	13	14	15
a.m.  TTER E	20 Immanuel Fellowship Exec Meeting 10:00am, Library  Scholarship Committee Zoom with applicants, 7:00-8:30pm	21	22 Bon Appetit Sports Café, 5pm
a.m.  Share Library  r Crew , 9:30am,	27	28 Unleashing Potential's summer camp ends	29

## Church Council & Board of CE Nominations

As you know that time of year is coming soon.... what time of year are we talking about? Church Council and Board of CE nominations and elections.

We know some of you are saying "I hope they don't call me" and some are saying "I hope they call me". Well, odds are they both might happen. We are asking everyone to seriously consider serving your church either by serving on the nominating committee or being an nominee. The nominating committee makes the calls to ask the prospective nominees if they will serve. The nominees are the ones who serve on the Church Council and Board of CE committees.

We know we ask you to fill out the enlisting ministries sheet and ask you to check the box if that interests you. Well, we are taking it a step further and personally asking you, if you are interested in being on the Council or Board of Christian Education please let us know.

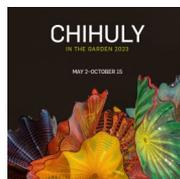
Thank You,  
Nominating Committee



## Upcoming all-church outings

Plans are being created for more all-church outings in the next few months. Initial ideas are horse racing and viewing artwork by Chihuly. More details to come!

- Horse racing at Fairmount Park
- Chihuly exhibit at the Missouri Botanical Garden



## Habitat for Humanity

Immanuel's scheduled day to participate in the Habitat for Humanity work day is August 26. Please contact Tim Guethler for more information.



# Rally Day

Plans are being made for Rally Day. The format will be similar to last year where each committee highlights their respective ministry. We will also kickoff the new school year and begin activities for the youth.

The date is still being finalized. Look for more details in the coming weeks!







## *Memorials and Honorariums*

In Honor of - Rev. Deon A. McKenzie's  
Ordination and Installation

To: Eden Theological Seminary

From: Judy Thompson

In Memory of - Paul Viehmann

To: Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship Fund

From: Richard and Janet Viehmann

In Memory of - Paul Viehmann

To: Immanuel Building and Capital Improvement Fund

From: Don and Kathy Morice

In Memory of - Paul Viehmann

To: Emmaus Homes - Operating Fund

From : John Thies Jr.





## *Memorials and Honorariums*

In Memory of - Joan Newman  
To: Immanuel General Fund

From:

Allan and Jacqueline Virnich  
Kenneth and Melinda Walker  
Joyce Strughold and Matthew Huffman  
John and Pam Viehmann  
Bill and Charlotte Youngman  
Thomas Christian  
Jerry and Christine Leeker  
Shirley Joellenbeck  
Joan Huntebrinker  
Daly and Slaninka Families  
Terry and Trudy Lee  
Dave and Judith Zensen  
Mickey and Jacky Crocker





# July Birthdays!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Gabby Miller	7/4
Garrett Miller	7/4
Ellie Knipping	7/5
Tony Wright III	7/6
Doug Daniels	7/11
Barb Krewson	7/12
Clay Oelzen	7/13
Allison Jansen	7/19
Kimberly McKenzie	7/19
Sarah Klasing	7/20
Joey Bogdajewicz	7/22
Jeanie Thies	7/22
Martin Payer	7/30
George Hildebrand II	7/31



## Flowers for July



July 2 - George & Paula Hildebrand

July 9 - Wanda Young & Family

July 16 -

July 23 - Terry & Karen Fox

*Geraldine's Florist is still in business but they are closing in the near future. You can still order flowers and they will deliver to Immanuel. Please let the Church Office know when you have ordered and we will put it in the bulletin and newsletter.*

***The Worship Committee is scheduling scripture readers. If you would like to read scripture, please call the Church Office or Charlie Miller.***

## Lay Readers for July

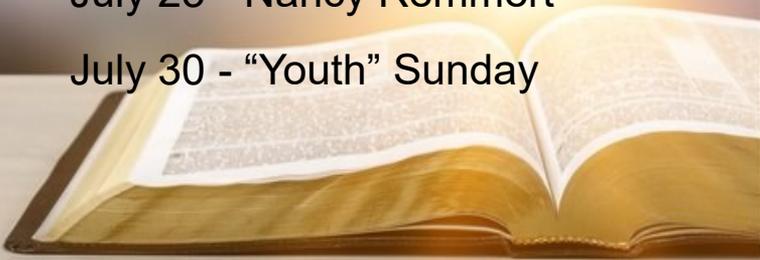
July 2 - Charlie Miller

July 9 - John Bogdajewicz

July 16 - Karen Fox

July 23 - Nancy Remmert

July 30 - "Youth" Sunday





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

## Church Office

We are open Monday thru Thursday from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Please leave a message if we don't answer and we will return your call.

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**

The deadline for the newsletter is Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

Thank you!

