



Weekly Calendar Dec. 13-20, 2015

Sunday, 12/13

- 11:15a Christ Concert Practice
1:30-3p Children's Christmas Service Practice
6:30p Adult Information Class (Overflow Room)

Monday, 12/14

- 7:00p NAMI Meetings
8:00p Men's Prayer Group
8:00p AA Meeting

Tuesday, 12/15

- 6:30a Men's Bible Study
6-7:30p Zumba

Wednesday, 12/16

- 9:30a Adult Bible Study
5:45-6:15p Immanubells
6:15-7:15p Midweek Classes
6:15-7:15p Choir Practice
7:30p Advent Christ Concert & Living Nativity Service
8:15p NO Agape Ringers Practice

Thursday, 12/17

- 5:00p Weight Watchers
7:00p Church Council Meeting

Saturday, 12/19

- 9:30-11a Children's Christmas Service Practice
5:30p Holy Communion

Sunday, 12/20

- 7:45a Worship Service
9:00a Sunday School & Bible Study Classes
10:15a Holy Communion
7:00p Children's Christmas Service & Birthday Party for Jesus

Our Weekly Announcements

RESTROOMS are located in the hallway next to the overflow room and multipurpose room and in the church basement in the hallway to the side of the old kitchen.

PARENTS OF LITTLE

CHILDREN: There are activity bags available in the narthex for your little ones. Please feel free and take a bag with you as you enter.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS.

There are several large print bulletins available in the narthex for anyone needing one.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this weekend are given to the glory of God by the Nobbe family in memory of Robert Nobbe on his birthday.

PRESCHOOL FAMILY OF THE

WEEK. During the school year, we will be including an Immanuel Preschool student and his/her family in our prayers each week. This week we include Garrett & Gracie Stechmesser and their family in our prayers. Their parents are Shane & Leanna. May God bless you and your family in all your ways, Garrett & Gracie!

THANK YOU to the Christmas Decorating Committee who spent last Saturday morning getting the church ready for Christmas! Those who helped were Ann Frank, Barb & Courtney Heimburger, Pam Jacobs, Andrea & Sydney Kuergeleis, Ken, Susan & Matthew Stratman, and Val Zeisset. Thanks also to Wayne Collmeyer, Larry Goessling, and Allen Jacobs for setting up our outside nativity! It all looks beautiful!

THANKS to all the wonderful bakers, vendors, crafters, helpers, and buyers at this year's Cookie Walk. We had a great selection of cookies when we opened, and they were quickly snatched up! YUM! We earned \$1,550. The proceeds after paying bills will be donated to our preschool to help defray expenses for this school year. Thanks again for your support!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS.

Are you a Thrivent member who still has Thrivent Choice dollars left to designate this year? If so, Immanuel's Preschool is a designated recipient and would appreciate any and all donations. Go to Thrivent's website (www.thrivent.com) or call Member Care Services (1-800-847-4836) to

find out if you have any dollars available to donate.

NEXT SUNDAY is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. The readings for next Sunday will be Micah 5:2-5a; Heb. 10:5-10; and Luke 1:39-45. This is being provided so that you can better prepare for worship.

DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE for info on the latest events and activities taking place at Immanuel! Visit www.immanuelwaterloo.org and check it out. It's pretty cool and has a user-friendly layout! A link to all of our past services can be found there, too. If you have any suggestions, feel free to let us know.

PROFIT AND LOSS reports for October 2015 are available in the narthex for anyone wishing a copy of the report.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for October-December 2015 are now available. Pick up your copy today! The booklets can be found on the windowsill in the narthex.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE! The Bi-County Backpack Program provides meals for children in Waterloo, Valmeyer & Red Bud, who would struggle without this support. The items needed include (no glass jars, please) pasta (spaghetti, elbow, etc.), pasta sauce, pasta mixes, Roman noodles, peanut butter, pancake mix, pancake syrup, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, tuna, soups, stews, canned ravioli, fruit (cans or cups), canned vegetables. There is a basket in the narthex for your donations. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW? Households visited through Immanuel's New Neighbor Outreach since November 2007: 658.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR YOUTH! (1) Recycle your aluminum cans! There is a large trash can in the kitchen for those cans. If you have a large amount and put them in trash bags, you can put the bags over by the white shed at the corner of the parking lot. (2) The paper recycle bins are located in the back of the education building. Load them up with your paper recycling products! (3) The ice machine is available and ice can be

purchased for a freewill donation during office hours, and on weekends before and after the services. Simply bag your own ice with the large ice scoop and place your money in the donation bucket. All proceeds benefit Immanuel's youth group and their events throughout the year. Thanks for your continued support!

A COFFEE & DOUGHNUT

FELLOWSHIP is held each Sunday after the early service (until 9am). Coffee and doughnuts are sponsored by Immanuel's youth and are located in the hallway by the overflow room. The youth appreciate free will donations. **Would you like to sponsor a Sunday?** If so, please sign up on the sheet on the coffee & doughnuts table or by the ice machine! Your help is appreciated!

BULLETIN BOARD IN THE

NARTHEX. Remember to take a look at all the flyers on the bulletin board in the narthex. Many events and activities in and around our community (upcoming Lay Bible Institutes, concerts, dinners, Thrivent events, blood drives, etc.) are posted there!

AUTO CONTRIBUTIONS. Would you like to have your weekly or monthly contributions taken directly from your checking or savings account? If so, please fill out a Direct Contribution Form found on the shelf in the narthex and drop it in the wooden box in the narthex or in the "Notes 4 Lisa" basket in the church office.

UPDATED CONSTITUTIONS are available in the narthex. Be sure to pick up a copy if you'd like.

LWML MITE BOXES. There is a purple & white "Mites for Missions" box on the table in the narthex for any loose donations you would like to give to support LWML local & national mission work. Thank you!

DO YOU SHOP AT SCHNUCKS?

Schnucks offers a wonderful and EASY fundraising program, and Immanuel is a part of it. If you already have an e-scrip card, remember to use it every time you check out at Schnucks. If you don't have an e-scrip card, you can pick one up right as you enter Schnucks. They can be found on the display with the ads and other coupons. Thank you for using your cards!

Last Weekend's Attendance

	2015	2014
Saturday	74	57
7:45am	48	75
10:15am	105	135
	227	267
Advent 2	73	78

2015 weekend average attendance: 234

Sunday School:

PreK-8th	33	\$15.50
HS & College	5	
Adults	22	
	60	

Bible Study Opportunities

Sundays:

- Pastor Troup leads a Bible study called "Letters from a Jailbird: Paul's Prison Epistles," at 9:00am in the overflow room.
- A high school and college Bible class in the youth room (lower level of the school building) at 9:00am. They are studying *Broken: 7 Christian Rules that Every Christian Ought to Break as Often as Possible* led by Vicar Merritt.
- A Bible Scholar Bowl about the things that Luke wrote, led by Vicar Merritt, Matthew Bohlmann, and Lesley Chen in the multipurpose room at 9:00am for all junior high, senior high & college students and their parents.
- An adult & family DVD study by Dr. Kevin Lehman entitled "Value-Packed Parenting: Raising Rock-Solid Kids in a Pleasure-Driven World" at 9:00am in the church basement kitchen. Feel free to bring your little ones, too!

Tuesdays:

- A Bible study "Joseph: Carpenter of Steel" led by Pastor Troup at Burger King at 6:30am. This is a Bible fellowship for men.

Wednesdays:

- A Study of Romans led by Vicar Merritt Demski in the overflow room at 9:30am. This is a Bible fellowship for adults.

Thursdays:

- Ladies, we will resume our study of the book of Ruth on January 7th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS! During the fall quarter (Sept-Nov), there were no perfect attendance certificates handed out but several children received honorable mention certificates for only missing 1-2 classes. Those children are Jay Grant, Jenna & Nicholas Hoeffken, Addie & Ben Janssen, Lauren Patterson, Kyle Rusteberg, Addison Solsrud, and Avery & Grace Troup. Congratulations to each of you!

COLLECTION FOR CONCORDIA SEMINARY'S FOOD BANK. The Board of Social Ministry is collecting non-perishable food items for Concordia Seminary's Food Bank during December. These items include all canned goods, boxed items, sauces, soups, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers (all sizes), laundry detergent, fabric softener sheets, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies, and other non-perishable items. This Food Bank benefits all of the Seminary students and their families throughout the year. You can put your donations in the barrel in the narthex.

COATS! COATS! COATS! Do you have like new or gently used coats at home that you would like to donate to adults & children in need? If so, Daniel Menke, an Immanuel member and an IL State Trooper, is heading up a coat drive for local families (adults & children) who may otherwise not have coats during this upcoming winter. **Please drop off any donations in the church office by Sunday, December 20th.**

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP. Are you interested in attending? If so, they meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 8:00pm at Wayne Collmeyer's house (209 Crosswinds Ct.) in Waterloo. Need directions or have questions, give Wayne a call (618-719-7235).

NAMI (NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS) MEETINGS. Do you or someone you know suffer with mental illness? If so, two meetings, one for the person with mental illness and the other for family & friends of those with mental illness, are held at Immanuel on the 2nd Monday of each month. Each are held at 7:00pm. One is held in the overflow room and the other is held in the church basement kitchen. Rev. Royal Boeder is one of the group leaders. Visit www.nami.org for more details.

ATTENTION MALE HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: Are you planning to attend college in the fall of 2016? If so, you can apply for grants & scholarships offered by the National Lutheran Fraternity, Beta Sigma Psi. Contact Lisa in the

church office for more details and for an application.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY. Pastor Troup is leading a study on "Joseph: Carpenter of Steel" on Tuesday mornings at 6:30am at Burger King. Come & join in the discussion!

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS ARE AVAILABLE. There are Advent devotional booklets in the box with the Portals of Prayer. Pick one up today!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE PRACTICES. The remaining practices for this year's Children's Christmas Service "Christmas Jubilee" will be held on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 1:30-3:00pm, and on Sat., Dec. 19, from 9:30-11:00am. If you are taking part in this service, please attend these practices!

PRACTICE FOR THE CHRIST CONCERT. Are you involved in the Christ Concert? If so, please attend the practice on Sun., Dec. 13, following the 10:15am service (approx. 11:15am). It will be held in the church.

LIVING NATIVITY SERVICE AND ADVENT CHRIST CONCERT! Immanuel is reprising the Christ Concert during Advent this year. The Advent service on Dec. 16th will include the Christ Concert and the Living Nativity. Invite your family & friends to come for a wonderful evening to put your hearts and minds in the Christmas mood! Following the Living Nativity, stick around for hot chocolate and cookies, and a chance to pet the animals, including the camel!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE. The Children's Christmas Service "Christmas Jubilee" will be held on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7:00pm, and a "Birthday Party for Jesus" will follow the service. All are welcome to attend!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING. All are invited to go Christmas Caroling with the Board of Social Ministry, the youth group, and the choirs on Sunday, Dec. 27th. We'll meet in the overflow room at 2:45pm and break into 2 groups to visit 5 Waterloo nursing/assisted living homes (Rosedale House, Garden Place, Legacy Place, Oak Hill/ Magnolia Terrace, and Bellefontaine Place). Members and friends of all ages are welcome; the more, the merrier!

BOOK CLUB. January's book, *The Defense Never Rests*, by Craig Parton, will be discussed on Monday, Jan. 4 at 7:00pm in the library. All are welcome to come &

join in on the discussion!

THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY will resume their study of *Ruth: More Than a Love Story* on Thursday, Jan. 7 at 7:00pm in the overflow room. All ladies are welcome! We'll continue meeting on Thursdays at 7:00pm until Easter.

GROW BY ONE. Immanuel will begin a 3-week Stewardship Emphasis in January 2016. "Grow by One: Growing One Step at a Time" is our theme, and we'll be focusing on using our time, talents, and treasures for God's glory. Join us as we "Grow by One" as a family of Christ! See the insert for more details.

WOMEN'S RETREAT. Ladies, you are invited to attend Camp Wartburg's Women's Retreat on January 22-23, 2016. The theme is "Rejoicing in Being a Woman of God" and the speaker is Deaconess Ruth McDonnell. Come and enjoy a relaxing time getting to know other Christian women in the area as we delve into God's Word together. The retreat begins at 6:00pm on Friday and ends at 2:00pm on Saturday. Friday's snacks and Saturday's breakfast & lunch are included. Would you like to attend? The cost is \$45, but Immanuel's Women's Christian Ministry is sponsoring this retreat so your cost is only \$25. Contact Lisa Clamors (939-6480 or immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com) to RSVP or for more information.