

Immanuel Monthly

**December
2016**



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL
522 S. CHURCH STREET – WATERLOO, IL – 618.939.6480
immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com – immanuelwaterloo.org

From Our Administrative Pastor...

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Immanuel,

Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays
'Cause no matter how far away you roam,
When you pine for the sunshine of a friendly gaze
For the holidays you can't beat home, sweet home

So goes the song composed by Robert Allen and Al Stillman and made popular by Perry Como. How true it is! You can't beat home and family when you're longing for a loving and comfortable place to stay. Home is where you grew up. Home is where people know you. Home is where people love you. Even when you've hurt loved ones, home is where you'll find "the sunshine of a friendly gaze."

That being the case, Christmas shows how awesome and profound Jesus' love for us truly is. Even though there's no place like home for the holidays, Jesus left his home in heaven to become a man. He left of the glories of heaven, the comfort of heaven, the fellowship of the angels in heaven to be born into our world. Even though heaven was his home, he came to earth to be our Savior—to suffer and die for our sins, and to rise victoriously on the third day. And because he did, heaven has become our home. When we "pine for the sunshine of a friendly gaze," we know that God smiles upon us for Jesus' sake. His countenance (face) beams upon us in pleasure because Jesus has made us God's children.

There's nothing wrong with enjoying our homes. Being with loved ones is precious and joyful! But the fact that Jesus left his true home to dwell among sinful people and make heaven our true home makes being home for the holidays a thousand times better. "For the holidays you can't beat" knowing that we'll be at home with God for all eternity!

Jesus bless your Christmas and the coming New Year!

Pastor Inoup

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*Making more and
stronger disciples of
Jesus Christ through
the power of the
Holy Spirit.*

Celebrate Advent & Christmas With Us!

Advent Dinners:
Wed., Dec. 7 & 14
5-7 pm

Advent Service:
Wed., Dec. 7—7:30 pm

Christ Concert and Living
Nativity Service:
Wed., Dec. 14—7:30 pm

Sunday School
Christmas Service:
Sun., Dec. 18—3:00 pm

Christmas Services:
Sat., Dec. 24
4:00 pm & 7:30 pm

Sun., Dec. 25
9:00 am

From Our Associate Pastor...

"Ask the Pastor"

We all have a lot of questions about the resurrection. Some questions can be answered as we look to Scripture, while others have to wait until the resurrection itself. Though, at that point, I don't know whether we'll have burning questions about the "how" of everything when we're in the presence of Jesus. One question that has come up multiple times recently, and is worth a moment to consider, has to do with whether there will be male and female in the resurrection.

The basis of this question, as it has been brought to me, has been in relation to Galatians 3: "27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise." As with any question about a Biblical text, we start with context. Our eyes go down to dig into Scripture rather than up to the sky to ponder our own thoughts on the matter. If we look at the context of Galatians, we find out that Paul is writing to Christians who are being told by some Jewish Christians that all Christians have to follow the Jewish cultural laws. Paul tells them, that's not the case. Instead, Jesus has lived perfectly according to the laws of God—rather than the laws of men—and we are now free from the burden of the law. That doesn't mean we're free to sin, but that we are all offspring of Abraham through Jesus. We're all identically saved through the forgiveness of Jesus. Men are not more saved than women, nor are free men more saved than slaves, and so on. This passage is not making reference to our physical appearance in the resurrection. Instead, it's talking about our standing with God through Christ. We are all saved by the same grace, through the same faith, as a gift from the same Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:8).

All we know is that Jesus rose from the dead and has a new and glorified body. He was the first fruits of what is to come for all who believe in him. Check out 1 Corinthians 15 and 2 Corinthians 5 for Paul's discussion on the topic of our physical bodies and what we await when we "put on the imperishable". That is going to be an amazing day. Our bodies will be healthy and whole. Our bodies will no longer suffer or be weak. Instead, we will be with Christ and live forever in his grace and peace. There is nothing to suggest we will no longer have a sex assigned to us (we are still a binary creation, i.e. male and

female. Despite what culture says, there is no "other" in the equation), but we are told that marriage will no longer be an institution (Matthew 22, Mark 12, Luke 20). Jesus tells the people who are asking about marriage in the resurrection that they're missing the point and we hear in Ephesians that marriage is a reminder of Christ's love for the church, his bride (Ephesians 5). How our bodies will be changed and yet we'll recognize one another (1 John 3) is a mystery to us in this life, and yet I'm sure it will be amazing when it happens.

Have a question about this or want to submit a question? Send me an email or feel free to stop by and chat.

Pastor Denski

A "Note" from our Music Director

December Darkness...

I always have a difficult time "adjusting" to the time change in late fall. The "darkness" comes early in the evening, making for longer hours when "light" is needed.

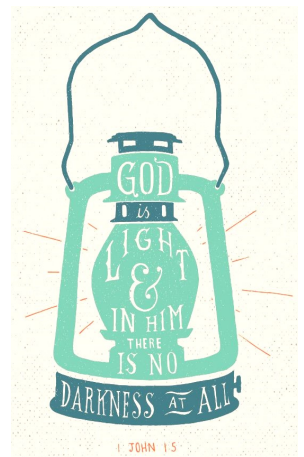
Growing up on the farm meant that after the long bus ride home from school in December, I would need to bring a flashlight with me to find my mom milking the cows, or I would have to find my way over familiar pathways to the barn in the darkness. A person's eyes do adjust to the darkness after a while, but for safety, it is wise to have some light to make sure one's footing is secure while walking. Once I would be inside the barn, the lights on the ceiling would shine brightly on the yellow straw covering the floor and also give me the satisfaction that I could clearly see my mom sitting on the milking stool next to one of the cows. As the month of December would pass by and January would begin the evening darkness would become less and less, so the flashlight became less and less needed for me to head to the barn.

The time of Advent finds me looking for a flashlight now and then to find my way in the dark! Music at Immanuel that has and will be presented throughout the Advent and Christmas Season is like a light to all who worship. Words found in the hymns or selections played/sung that reflect our *Savior's coming, His birth, and His return* point us to a most **marvelous light**—one that can never be compared to our flashlights!

Listen for the **LIGHT** in worship, and rest assured, December darkness will soon fade away.

Serving Him,

Jim



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to... 31 Laura Richter
Dan Worley

- 1 Jeremiah Bell
- Norman Eggemeyer
- 2 Jenny Boker
- Dale Zeisset
- 5 Drake Downing
- Becky Ellis
- Angie Prescher
- Barb White
- 7 Jeff Filipiak
- Reba Menke
- 8 Olivia Rusteberg
- 9 Brenda Schreder
- 10 Esther Brandt
- Merry Conway
- 12 Breanna Altes
- Nede Bachelier
- Jeffrey Haare
- 13 Nyla Bartels
- Chris Moore
- 14 Reese Downing
- Virginia Horn
- Deborah Joellenbeck
- Roy Unterseh
- 15 Willa Mae Prange
- 16 Myla Eggemeyer
- Colton Glessner
- Grace Troup
- 17 Vickie Wynn
- 18 Derek Heise
- Jim Stueve
- Sam Stumpf
- 19 Linda Bommarito
- Sharon Rehmer
- 20 Scott Kirkley
- Tom Wheatley
- 21 Greyson Kruse
- Ava Rehmer
- 23 Wayne Hargrave
- 24 Lillian Eggemeyer
- J. T. Englert
- John Reisner
- 26 Evan McDaniel
- Michael Quinn
- Haley Vernier
- Hannah Vernier
- 27 Janis Milton
- 28 Robert Mesnarich
- Bill Stueve
- Melissa Ziegler
- 29 Janet Crawford
- Marvin Henry
- Louella Lipe
- 30 Jenna Hoeffken
- Caleb Troup

Happy Anniversary to...

- 1 Clem & Karen Ruesler (32)
- 5 Sandy & Jackie Nichols (18)
- 6 Bob & Barb Vernier (28)
- 7 Ray & Sue Champion (31)
- 9 Adam & Jill Eggemeyer (11)
- 13 Bob & Shirley Elmore (13)
- 17 Bob & Gayle Mesnarich (39)
- Jerry & Jane Moeser (17)
- 19 Tony & Cindy Troup (33)
- 21 Morris & Nina Binder (53)
- 22 Bob & Linda Polansky (32)
- 23 George & Myra Lesinger (49)
- 24 Larry & Georgia Wynn (63)
- 25 Bobby & Mandy Rehmer (13)
- 26 Les & Sandra Downing (51)
- 27 Dennis & Yvonne Brandt (36)
- Leo & Karen Hodapp (45)
- 31 Clarence & Susan Vogt (59)

*God's blessings to each of
you as you celebrate a
birthday or anniversary in
December!*



Sunday, Dec. 11th

3-5 pm

**Meet in the Overflow Room
at 2:45 pm**

One group will sing at Oak Hill & Bellefontaine Place, and the other group will sing at Rosedale House, Garden Place & Legacy Place. We are looking for singers of all ages and of all musical backgrounds. Please consider joining the caroling fun. Invite your family and friends to sing Christmas carols/songs with you!

Parish Leaders

Pastors:

Rev. Dr. Tony Troup, 618-340-8375
Rev. Merritt Demski, 847-254-9666

Administrative
Associate

Church & School Staff:

Lisa Clamors, 618-719-4954

Office Secretary

Ann Frank, 282-6597

Music Director

Sandy Mueller

Housekeeping

Ken Schanz

Groundskeeper/Maintenance

Cindy Troup, 618-340-0757

Preschool Co-Director

Linda Polansky, 618-980-3475

Preschool Co-Director

Church Council:

Lee Eggemeyer, 458-8555

President

Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033

Vice-President

Laura Kinzinger, 939-8175

Secretary

David Powell, 618-974-9222

Treasurer

Warren Frank, 282-6597

Financial Secretary

Taryn Niemeyer, 939-7982

Christian Education

Allen Jacobs, 939-3035

Church Properties

Colby Crook, 618-910-2825

Evangelism

Sandy Mueller, 618-420-1373

Social Ministry

Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033

Spiritual Ministry

Pat Kelly, Sr., 636-373-2967

Stewardship

Sandy Nichols, 618-719-3424

Youth Ministry

Other Volunteers:

Cindy Troup

Sunday School Superintendent

Louise Nobbe

Head Sacristans

Marilyn Collette, Dianne Holle, and Deb Joellenbeck

Sandy Thompson

Flower Coordinator

Lisa Clamors

Women's Christian Ministry

Janet Crawford

Fellowship Committee

Field Education Students:

Nathan (Mariah) Abel, 4th year

832-257-8788

Ben (Gini) Spaulding, 1st year

586-588-1756

*Have you ever thought about joining one of
Immanuel's Boards or committees? If so, please
contact the appropriate person listed above.*

Elders' Shepherding Program

(Families whose last name begins with)

A-B	Rodney Clamors, 618-719-4023
C-D	Jim Crawford, 618-799-8789
E-Ha	Scott Janssen, 214-629-6975
He-Hu	Bob Polansky, 618-979-0918
J-K	Jason Valerius, 458-4890
L-Mel	Wayne Collmeyer, 618-719-7235
Men-My	Cal Neeman, 939-5137
N-P	Elden Niemeyer, 939-7982
R-Sche	Larry Taake, 939-4757
Schi-Sw	Jerry Grant, 939-5032
T-Wel	Bill Holtgrieve, 939-9105
Wem-Z	Larry Goessling, 939-8824
Elders & Pastors: Alan Stumpf, 618-719-9033	

Have a question or would like to speak to your elder, feel free to call him anytime.

Monthly Collections

Board of Social Ministry:

December: Concordia Seminary's Food Bank

Concordia Seminary's Food Bank is in need of non-perishable food items, especially during this time of the year. Please drop off your donations in the barrel in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

Sunday School:

December: Lutheran Braille Workers

Each month, the Sunday School classes take a monetary offering for a specific charity. Thank you to all of the Pre-K through 8th grade students that contribute to these collections each month!

Bi-County Backpack Program:

This is an ongoing collection that supports children in Red Bud, Valmeyer, and Waterloo throughout the year. See the weekly bulletins for a list of items needed.

Bible Study Opportunities!

Sunday Education Hour (9-10 am): This Bible study hour consists of Sunday School for the youth (3 years old to 8th grade), a young adult Bible study (high school & college age) on "*Creation vs Evolution: The Facts, Myths, and Social Impact*" led by Pastor Demski in the youth room; a DVD study "*Afraid: Demon Possession and Spiritual Warfare in America*" led by Pastor Troup in the overflow room; and a "*Sticky Faith*" Bible study for young adults and families led by Scott & Jen Janssen and Tim Scheibe in the church basement kitchen.

Men's Bible Study: A Bible study on the *book of Matthew* led by Pastor Troup is held at Burger King every Tuesday at 6:30 am.

Wednesday Morning Adult Bible Class: This Bible study and fellowship time is held every Wednesday at 9:30am. This class is led by Pastor Demski, and they are studying the *book of Jeremiah*.

Ladies' Bible Study: The ladies are not meeting in December. They'll begin meeting again on Thursdays in January at 7:00 pm as they study "A Woman of Contentment: Ecclesiastes" by Dee Brestin. Books are available in the church office.

Adult Information Classes: None at the present time.

Elders' Bible Study: A number of Immanuel's elders will be leading a Bible study called "What Jesus Demands from the World" in their homes every month. These studies focus on who Jesus is, what He expects of us, and how He provides loving direction and strength for our good and ultimate satisfaction. *They'll be studying one chapter per month, and there will be a few opportunities for each chapter every month.* Please feel free to contact the Bible study leaders if you would like more information. All are welcome! Refreshments will be served each evening. **There will not be any studies in December, and they'll resume on January 1st.**



IN OUR PRAYERS...

Please note: The names listed below will remain on our public prayer list for two weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise. Thank you.

We Pray for our Fellow Parishioners: Millie Menke, Erwin Liefer, Doris Horn, Nancy Huck, Isabel Gibbons, Sandy Moore, Phyllis Brown, Esther Brandt, Kim Holtgrieve, Shirley Moeckel, Norma Wheatley, Jerry Moeser, Iva Mesnarich

We Pray for Friends and Relatives of Parishioners: Michael Washausen, Nina Van Kamp, Ken Horn, Al Gruber, Karen Altes, Kurt Klotzer, Nicole Bachelier, John Stumpf, Marlene Tonkins, Sue Neeman, Bob Schneider

We Pray for Those in the Service of Our Nation: Alicia Kirkley, Dustin Bender, Aaron Bommarito, Alex Naumann, Paul Doty, Jonathan Fuller, Amanda Milburn

We Pray for Our Missionaries and Special Missions: Eric & Linda Funke (Tanzania), Unity Lutheran Elementary School (East St. Louis, IL)

Do You Have an Email Address?

Did you know that you could be a good steward by receiving our newsletter via e-mail? Call or e-mail the church office and let Lisa know to remove you from the mailing list and add you to the e-mail list.

Our October Finances

Total Deposits	\$ 49,876.82
Total Expenses	\$ 43,947.39
Over/(Short)	\$ 5,929.43

October 31, 2016 Balances:

Checking	\$ 75,352.48
Scholarship Fund	\$ 9,385.33
Narthex Exp. Fund	\$ 10,740.00
Nobbe Mem. Fund	\$ 8,236.00
Loan	\$ 29,363.56

2016 Year to Date:

Deposits	\$347,558.77
Expenses	\$359,406.06
Over/(Short)	\$ (11,847.29)
Unpaid Obligations	\$ 0.00

October 2016 Official Acts

Baptism:

10/29—*Ely Michael Rusteberg*, son of Michael and Melany nee Conger Rusteberg

December 2016 Altar Flowers

12/3—12/4 Given to the glory of God by Louise Nobbe in remembrance of Robert Nobbe on his birthday

12/10—12/11 open

12/17—12/18 open

12/24—12/25 Given to the glory of God by Doris Horn in thanksgiving for all of her blessings

The 2017 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Sign up early for the weekend you would like! As your weekend gets closer, Sandy Thompson will contact you to give you more details.

October Church Attendance

October 2016 (5)	1062
October 2015 (4)	860
October 1986 (5)	1131

2016 Weekly Average (as of 10/31): 227
As of 10/31/16, there were 875 baptized members.

Cookie Walk & Craft Fair Saturday, December 3 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Purchase homemade cookies by the pound (\$7.00/lb.) and visit several crafters & vendors to purchase those special Christmas gifts!

Christmas Cookies



December 2016 Worship Helpers

Dates	Times	Ushers	Servers	Lectors	Acolytes	Greeters	Media Team
Sat, Dec 03	5:30 PM		Chuck Keller		Kyra Drewes	Marilyn Collette	Kelley Keller
Sun, Dec 04	7:45 AM	10		Warren Frank	Paul Hoeffken & Evan Fink	Ushers	Laurie Sparwasser ®
	10:15 AM	11	Nathan Abel	Nathan Abel	Lauren Patterson & Addie Janssen	Ushers	Lisa Clamors
Wed, Dec 07	7:30 PM	1			Lilly Prather & Sophia Alu	Ushers	Wyatt/Kyra Drewes ®
Sat, Dec 10	5:30 PM		Wayne Collmeyer	Wayne Collmeyer	Alex Magnuson	Marilyn Collette	Lisa Clamors
Sun, Dec 11	7:45 AM	2	Ben Spaulding	Ben Spaulding	Tyler Cooley & Sami Wheat	Barb & Courtney Heimbürger	Pam Nagel
	10:15 AM	3		Karen Hodapp	Blake Kloeppel & Ian Schrader	Ushers	Mitchell/Tim Scheibe ®
Wed, Dec 14	7:30 PM	4			Alex Whelan & Autumn Whelan	Charles & Phyllis Lloyd	Greg/Paul Hoeffken ®
Sat, Dec 17	5:30 PM		Rodney Clamors	Nyla Bartels	Jack Metzger	Marilyn Collette	Lisa Clamors
Sun, Dec 18	7:45 AM	5		Wayne Collmeyer	Jay Grant & Jenna Hoeffken	Ushers	Greg Hoeffken ®
	10:15 AM	6	Bob Vernier	Marian Obst	Jordyn Koch & Kyra Drewes	Wayne & Cathie Collmeyer	Laurie Sparwasser
Sat, Dec 24	4:00 PM	8	Chuck Keller	Gary Altes	Lauren Patterson, Lilly Prather, Sophia Alu	Ushers	Kelley Keller
	7:30 PM	9	Rodney Clamors	Rodney Clamors	Jenna Hoeffken, Sami Wheat, Paul Hoeffken	Ushers	Greg Hoeffken ®
Sun, Dec 25	9:00 AM	10		Veronica Demski	Alex & Autumn Whelan	Ushers	Lisa Clamors ®
Sat, Dec 31	5:30 PM		Wayne Collmeyer	Wayne Collmeyer	Alex Magnuson	Marilyn Collette	Lisa Clamors
Sun, Jan 01	9:00 AM	7	Warren Frank	Joey Birrittier	Jack Metzger & Jenna Hoeffken	Barb & Courtney Heimbürger	Pam Nagel ®

Usher Teams:

- 1 Roy Unterseh, Jim Stueve, Dennis & Raymond Brandt, Ed Arras
- 2 Chuck Keller, Craig Mehner, Larry Taake, Dawn & Chase Rubemeyer
- 3 Rodney & Lisa Clamors, Michael Trout, Ollney Mueller Jr.
- 4 Bill Stueve, Charles Lloyd, Kevin Whelan
- 5 Robert Mesnarich Jr., Pam Nagel, Don & Carol Matzenbacher
- 6 Jason & Nick Valerius, Wade Marshall, Gerald Woodcock, Tim Troup
- 7 Alan Stumpf, Larry Decker, Ross Schrader, Paul Broske Sr.
- 8 Larry Goessling, Jim Smothers, Dave Wiese, Cal Neeman, Dean Harbison
- 9 Jim Crawford, Allen Jacobs, Don & Joey Birrittier
- 10 Elden Niemeyer, Sharon Osterhage, Wayne Hargrave, Wyatt Drewes
- 11 Lee Eggemeyer, Ken Schanz, Roger Schanz, Curt Wittbracht

Vestment Colors:

12/1—12/23 purple
12/24—12/31 red

Saturday Accompanists:

12/3, 12/17, 12/31
Ron Jones

12/10
Joan Ruwald

Collators:

Nede & Bernell Bachelier



“Joy to the World” Children’s Christmas Service Sunday, December 18 3:00 pm

Sunday School children in preschool through 8th grade will be participating in this service. Come and listen as the Christmas story is told by the young people.

Following the service, you are invited to a “Birthday Party for Jesus” hosted by the Board of Christian Education in the multipurpose room. Cake, ice cream, and drinks will be served.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December 2016</h1>				1 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i>	2 6p Set up for Cookie Walk & Craft Fair	3 9a-12p Cookie Walk & Craft Fair 5:30p Holy Communion
				8 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i>	9	10 9:30a Board of Evangelism Meeting 9a-11p Scrapbook Day 5:30p Holy Communion
4 7:45a Worship Service 9:00a Educ Hour 10:15a Holy Communion 1:30-2:45p Children's Service Practice	5 <i>Pastor Troup OFF</i> 7:00p Book Club Meeting	6 6:30a Men's Bible Study at Burger King 6-7:30p Zumba	7 9:30a Adult Bible Class 5-7p Advent Dinner 5:45-6:15p Immanubells 6:30-8p Midweek 6:15-7:15p Choir 7:30p Advent Service 8:30p Agape Ringers	8 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i> 10:30a Oak Hill Service 11:15a Legacy Place Service	9	10 9:30a Board of Evangelism Meeting 9a-11p Scrapbook Day 5:30p Holy Communion
11 7:45a Holy Communion 9:00a Educ Hour 10:15a Worship Service 1:30-2:45p Children's Service Practice 3:00p Christmas Caroling	12 <i>Pastor Troup OFF</i> 8:00p Men's Prayer Group	13 6:30a Men's Bible Study at Burger King 6-7:30p Zumba 7:15p Board of Christian Ed Meeting	14 9:30a Adult Bible Class 5-7p Advent Dinner 6:15-7:15p Midweek 7:30p Christ Concert & Living Nativity Service	15 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i> 7:00p Church Council Meeting	16	17 9:30-11:00a Children's Service Practice 5:30p Holy Communion
18 7:45a Worship Service 9:00a Educ Hour 10:15a Holy Communion 3:00p Children's Christmas Service & Birthday Party for Jesus	19 <i>Pastor Troup OFF</i>	20 6:30a Men's Bible Study at Burger King 6-7:30p Zumba	21 9:30a Adult Bible Class 7:10p Agape Ringers 7:40p Choir	22 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i>	23	24 4:00p Holy Communion 7:30p Holy Communion
25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 9:00a Holy Communion	26 <i>Church Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor Troup OFF</i> 8:00p Men's Prayer Group	27 6:30a Men's Bible Study at Burger King 6-7:30p Zumba	28 9:30a Adult Bible Class <i>No midweek classes or music practices</i>	29 <i>Pastor Demski OFF</i>	30 <i>Church Office Closes at 12:00p</i> 6-8p Youth Nerf & Gym Night	31 5:30p Holy Communion

Want to Stay Up to Date?

Go to our website (immanuelwaterloo.org) and check it out! Be sure to subscribe to the calendar, and you'll have the most up to date info on Immanuel's activities and events. Also, click on *Church News* from the homepage to get access to all of the weekly announcements & updates and monthly newsletters. *Notice that something is missing? Let us know!*

BASIC Youth Group News!



There will not be a **regular youth group get-together in December**, but join us in January so we can have a bit of lunch together, have fellowship and then dig into questions

that our junior high and high school students have about both faith, life, and current events. Parents are welcome to stay and have some fellowship and encouragement together while the junior high and high schoolers meet with Pastor Demski for our lesson time. It's a great time, and we encourage anyone with junior high or high school students to get involved so we can grow together! If you have any questions, just let Pastor Demski know.

Want to get together during the Christmas break? Join us on **Friday, December 30th** from **6-8 pm** for a **Nerf and Gym Night**. Nerf war with food and fellowship and other gym activities.

Donut Duty—Who's on for December?

12/4— ?

12/11— Birrittier

12/18— Collmeyer

12/25— n/a

****If you would like to sponsor a Sunday, please sign up on the list on the table or email Pastor Demski.*



POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS SEASON 2016

During the 2016 Advent/Christmas Season we will again decorate our church with poinsettias. We will purchase these from the Waterloo High School FFA. The price is **\$6.00 per 6" plant**.

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please fill out the section below and return it to the "Notes 4 Lisa" basket in church office **by Sunday, Dec. 4** with your money. You can also drop it in the wooden box in the narthex. The plants may be picked up following the service on Sunday, December 25, 2016.

Poinsettias may be designated in memory or in honor of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special occasion, etc. If you would like to participate in this special display on behalf of yourself or your family, feel free to do so.

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Recognition of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

I will order _____ poinsettia(s) at \$6.00 each. Please make checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Support Our Youth Group!

1. Immanuel's BASIC youth group sponsors a coffee & doughnut fellowship each Sunday morning from 8:45-9:00 am and 10-10:15 am outside the multipurpose room. All freewill offerings are appreciated!
2. 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.
3. The paper recycle bins are located in the back of the education building. Load them up with your paper recycling products!
4. The ice machine is available and ice can be purchased for a freewill donation during office hours, and on weekends before and after worship. Simply load your container with the large ice scoop and place your money in the donation can.

Thank you for your support!



Greetings from the Women's Christian Ministry (WCM)!

Thank you to Rodney Clamors, Tyler Cooley, Janet, Kristin & Erica Crawford, Veronica Demski, Sandy Mueller, Taryn Niemeyer, Sharon Osterhage, and Barb White for helping provide food and serving the Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) at The Peace Center in St. Louis. It was truly a wonderful experience—a bit crazy and busy but a wonderful chance to help others less fortunate. *See another WCM event "thank you" on pg. 10.*

Our last WCM meeting for this year was held in November. And, many important decisions were made. First of all, our 2017 officers will be: President – Lisa Clamors; Vice President – Sharon Osterhage; Secretary – Angela LaRue; and Treasurer – Diane Hoffmann.

Among other business, we chose our new activities for the year 2017. The women had quite a number of suggested activities to choose from, and I hope you will be pleased with and enjoy what they chose for next year's events! Watch this newsletter column and the church bulletins for continuing updates on what the WCM will be doing. By the way, our Bi-county Backpack Collection, our spring Women's Mini-Retreat, and our annual fall Bunco event will be ongoing.

Planning for our 2017 Mini-Retreat will begin sometime in January and many hands will be needed for this annual outreach event. If you would like to help out with it, please let me know. You do not have to be a WCM member to help. Some of the areas needing volunteers are registration, set-up & decorating, handing out flyers, and of course bringing a breakfast food item. Don't miss out on the fun and fellowship as we work together to minister to the many women who attend this inspirational event! I almost forgot the most important area where you can help out...praying for our planning committee for this event, for the women that will attend the retreat, and prayers for our keynote speaker! More about who our speaker is and what the theme of this year's mini-retreat is will be coming soon!

The Thursday evening Women's Bible Study has finished its latest study. We will take a break for the holidays and resume again on January 5, 2016 (at 7:00 pm in the overflow room), with a new study of "A Woman of Contentment: Ecclesiastes" by Dee Brestin. As always, all ladies are welcome to join us! Books are available in the church office.

The Women's Christian Ministry has been truly blessed throughout this year with faithful women who have lived their faith through their dedication in serving in their homes, in our church and in our community. Immanuel is truly blessed! Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We would love for more ladies to get involved and to play an active part in the events and activities at Immanuel! The WCM welcomes YOU! Feel free to contact me anytime at lclamors@gmail.com or 618-719-4954.

The next Women's Christian Ministry meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17th, at 7 pm in the Overflow Room. We will be discussing our upcoming activities for 2017! Be there!

In Christ,
Lisa Clamors

"How good and pleasant it is when sisters live together in unity!" Psalm 133:1



Advent Christ Concert & Living Nativity Service Wednesday, December 14 at 7:30 pm

The service will begin in our sanctuary with wonderful instrumental and vocal music putting us in the Christmas spirit, and then we'll join Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and angel, and the animals, at the stable as they share in the birth of our Lord and Savior on that first Christmas Eve in Bethlehem! Feel free to stick around to pet the animals after the service. ***Invite your family and friends to this special service!***

THANK YOU!

Pastors Troup & Demski and Immanuel Lutheran Church, thank you for your willingness to have a POBLO Mission Weekend! You were great hosts and it was good to get to know you a bit more. Meeting your field workers from the Seminary was also a blessing. May God continue to help them grow in faith, knowledge and missions under your leadership. We thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for POBLO and other missions. I want to let you know that the generous door offering totaled \$851.00. We praise God! —Yours in Christ, Rev. Duane Maas

A door collection was taken for the ministry efforts of LHM in Uganda, and a total of \$2,291.00 was donated (this entire amount will be matched, too). In addition, Rebecca took a large basket full of medical supplies back to Uganda. Thank you! By the way, Rebecca really enjoyed her time with us so thank you for making her feel welcome!

Thank you to all who helped with and attended the ladies' crafting event, "The 5 C's of Christmas." And, a big thanks to Veronica Demski and Taryn Niemeyer for countless hours of planning and prepping the crafts. We hope to see you next year! By the way, \$110 in freewill donations were collected to help with updating the children's activity bags used during our services.

Thank you to all who took a child's wish list or two from the trees. All 35 children received gifts thanks to your generosity! Thanks so much for helping these foster children!

Join us for Advent Dinners & Services!

Wednesdays during Advent — Dec. 7 & Dec. 14 — 5-7 pm
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Immanuel's Mission Team will be hosting the dinner on Dec. 7 (soups & sandwiches) and any freewill donations received will support any future mission trips.

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting the dinner on Dec. 14 (chili & cornbread) simply for a time of fellowship with no freewill donation taken.

All dinners will include desserts and drinks, too.

A special Advent service follows at 7:30 pm each evening.



An Update from Our Missionary Partners...

Funke News: Discovery

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this?" Job 12:7-9

Children have the amazing ability to help us see the world with wonder, as if we are again seeing it for the first time. During Michael's first full month in the U.S., we have had the joy of watching him discover so many new places, people, animals and things. He now regularly asks "What is it?" or "What happened?" when he sees something new that he doesn't understand. Seemingly little things such as ice or a squirrel or a water fountain are opportunities for learning. We are so thankful for each new discovery and for all the reminders of God's love both in the U.S. and in Tanzania.



If you haven't already seen our 8-minute "Year 4 in Review" video or if you would like to share it with friends, you can find it at www.youtube.com/EricFunkeGLO. We highly recommend checking it out. There's an exciting announcement at the end. :-)

CHE

While we are treasuring time with family and friends here in the U.S., we continue to stay in contact with dear friends in Tanzania. We were delighted to hear that Jeremiah (Jerry) Shauri, our diocese Community Health Evangelism (CHE) coordinator, has returned from his five-week course in Kenya. The course covered CHE concepts in a variety of contexts including agriculture, women's health, children's ministry, microenterprise, and serving people with disabilities. The participants were able to visit numerous sites that are currently implementing CHE programs and learn from their experiences. The course also covered principles of teaching, using appropriate technologies, monitoring and evaluation, and report writing. Jerry returned with even more knowledge and enthusiasm to share with the trainers in our pilot program. In fact, he has already planned a two-day review seminar for the trainers November 10-11. Thank you to all who made it possible for Jerry to attend this incredibly valuable training!

Making Memories

One of the most precious aspects of being back in the U.S. is introducing Michael to family and friends and making beautiful memories together. This past month we took Michael to his first zoo, camped at Eisenhower State Park, spent a day enjoying the sites of the State Fair of Texas, enjoyed numerous mid-week playdates, wandered the Discovery Gardens at the Dallas Arboretum, celebrated Michael's 3rd birthday, rode the DART train to downtown Dallas, took Michael to his first costume party. He made an adorable Superman :-). If you would like to see more pictures of this month's adventures you can find them at www.facebook.com/AFunkeTimeInTanzania.

Written by Eric & Linda Funke on November 4, 2016. Would you like to be added to their email list? If so, email Eric & Linda at Linda.Funke@GlobalLutheranChurch.com and let them know.

Christmas Cards of Love

The Board of Social Ministry invites the congregation to join them in brightening our shut-ins' Christmas season. This board will be delivering a "goody bag" to each shut-in on December 11th. In addition to this gift, we are asking the members of Immanuel to remember them as well. Please consider sending a Christmas card to the shut-ins of our congregation. Your help will brighten their Christmas and extend the love of Immanuel to them.

NAME	ADDRESS		CITY, STATE, ZIP
Wilbert Kohlmeier	228 Mueller, Suite 1		Waterloo, IL 62298
Isabel Gibbons	228 Mueller, Suite 5		Waterloo, IL 62298
Clem Ruesler	233 N. Moore St.		Waterloo, IL 62298
Donna Lieb	611 S. Library St		Waterloo, IL 62298
Carol Woodcock	412 Morrison Ave.		Waterloo, IL 62298
Donald & Sandy Moore	7 Ruby Street		Cahokia, IL 62206
Arnold & Jackie Prigge	835 Circle Drive		Red Bud, IL 62278
Jerry & Nancy Huck	80 Meyer Lane		Bloomsdale, MO 63627
Doris Horn	Columbia Rehab & Nursing Center	253 Bradington Dr, Rm #205	Columbia, IL 62236
Erv Liefer	Garden Place	735 Columbia Ave, Apt. 40	Waterloo, IL 62298
Joan Rehmer	Garden Place	735 Columbia Ave, Apt. 18	Waterloo, IL 62298
Robert Blattner	Legacy Place	526 Legacy Dr., #42	Waterloo, IL 62298
Kathy Netzeband	624 Hartman Lane		Waterloo, IL 62298
Shirley Miller	228 Mueller Lane, Suite 9		Waterloo, IL 62298
Stella Laugesen	Oak Hill Nursing Home	623 Hamacher, Apt. 226	Waterloo, IL 62298

WORSHIP SERVICES

SATURDAY

5:30 pm

SUNDAY

7:45 am & 10:15 am

Holy Communion is celebrated at every Saturday service, at the 7:45 am service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, and at the 10:15 am service on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

***Pastor Troup's day off is Monday.
Pastor Demski's day off is Thursday.***



2016

Don't forget to visit us on the web...

immanuelwaterloo.org

You'll find our weekly announcements and updates, our calendar, and other important information!



May God continue to bless you:

Change Service Requested



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