

Immanuel Lutheran Church

February 2014

# The Church Messenger

”WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO...” MATTHEW 6:21

**S**tuff. . . We all have lots of stuff don't we? We acquire things for spring, summer, fall, and winter; things like clothing, yard tools, winter toys, things for the pool, things for a boat, fishing stuff, hunting stuff, things to rake leaves, and tools to remove snow. And we also get things like books, movies, and CDs, and electronics, and furniture, and decorations, and that thing your grandma gave you ten years ago, and those things that you think you just might use one day, including maybe the hunch that bell-bottoms might come back into fashion? (gee lets hope not J)

The thing is, we eventually run out of room to keep all of our stuff. Did you know that in America alone, there is an estimated 2.3 billion square feet of storage space in existence to help us with our storage issues? Are we now in bondage to our stuff? And if so, is this how God intended us to live?

This month we have been covering the Beatitudes from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew...and in verse 3 we see Jesus tell us that the poor in spirit are blessed...Who among us wants to be poor? And even poor in spirit? I believe this is an invitation for us to once again place our trust in God alone, the source of all life, the Word of salvation, the Spirit of mercy. What might it look like to begin to downsize in our community? What might it look like if we gave away or sold the things that we hold onto for whatever reason? What might it look like if we all took the proceeds of those things to use for God's mission to the world? For instance, what if we decided to provide wells for people in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries? Or to help the homeless in Eau Claire? Or for shelters for battered women? What if this would begin to shift our focus away from the things of this world, and release us to be *poor in spirit*?

Then, if our treasures become the things of the kingdom of heaven... where then would our hearts be?

Blessings and peace—

*Pastor Ken*



## Worship Schedule

9 AM — Sunday Worship

10 AM — Coffee Hour\*

5 PM (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month) — Family Service, light dinner served afterwards.

\*If you would like to host a coffee hour, please call Michelle or Ronnette at the office (715) 695-3511.

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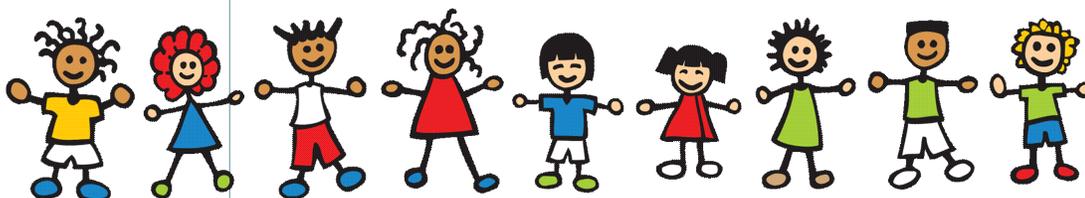
## Bowl-Winkles

1616 N Clairemont Avenue

Suite 1

Eau Claire, WI 54703

(715) 552-0564



A Childs Love

By: Kelly McGinnis

You can have your wealth and riches  
All the things so many seek,  
Position, power, and success,  
The fame you long to keep.

You can earn as much as you wish,  
Reach a status high above,  
But none of these can equal  
Having one sweet child to love.

'Tis the greatest gift from heaven,  
Little arms that hold you tight,  
And a kiss so soft and gentle  
When you tuck them in at night.

A million precious questions  
And each story often read,  
Two eyes so bright and smiling,  
And a darling tousled head.

God has never matched the good-  
ness  
Of a trusting little face,  
Or a heart so full of laughter  
Spreading sunshine every place.

A child to hold and cuddle,  
'Tis a gift from God above,  
And the world is so much brighter  
When you have a child to love.

2

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday, February 16, 2014 the kids will sing during church. Please have your children wear their yellow "God's Work. Our Hands." T-shirt. Also on February 16th...FAMILY FUN DAY at BOWL-WINKLES on West Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire. Family Fun Day is open to ALL ages. Please join us for Bowling and Pizza! There is a small fee for this event. We encourage all Immanuel family members to join in the fun. Please sign up by February 12, 2014 on the sign-up sheet located by the Education Office.

\$6 per person for one round of bowling

\$10 per person for one round of bowling and a pizza lunch

## CREATIVE BEGINNINGS

This year we have been blessed with a Micro Grant from Young Star! We have put a lot of thought into how to spend this grant. Last month we bought a camera, photo printer and made curtains for each room. We are also focusing on making the infant room more enjoyable with a larger play area in the classroom and new climb toys. All of us are very excited for the new items to arrive. Please stop in anytime to see all the new and exciting things.

Also I would like to thank all the teachers for making this grant happen. If it wasn't for you and your hard work this would never of happened!

GREAT JOB LADIES!

### Special Days

**February 13<sup>th</sup>:** Preschool Valentine's Day party

**February 17<sup>th</sup>:** Midwest Dental field trip

**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Camouflage Day

*Live, Laugh, Love*

# STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S EARTH

By Jim Tocko

As global population increases so also will the demand to produce enough food to feed the populace. The production of enough food will be possible, but doing so will greatly tax our finite resources, especially water. We take water for granted and don't think much about where it comes from or whether the supply will diminish faster than it can be restored. We don't realize how much water it takes to produce the food and drink we consume each day. Would you believe that it takes 1,857 gallons of water to produce one pound of ground beef. A cup of coffee, 37 gallons. That pair of jeans you pull on takes 2,900 gallons to produce. 756 gallons for a pound of pork, 469 for chicken, 400 for a dozen eggs, 371 for fresh cheese, 138 for yogurt, 32 for a glass of wine, 20 for a glass of beer, and so forth. So drink more beer. Cotton is a water intensive crop and is heavily fertilized. Agriculture uses nearly 139 billion gallons of water per day for irrigation and livestock care. As the population grows, efficient water usage will be critical. Irrigation will have to be coordinated with natural rainfall. Soil management is key to water conservation. Runoff will have to be managed better. The same is true of our own homesteads. It is too bad we all can't have holding areas to collect rainfall and grey water to be used for watering lawns and gardens. We have to take our care-taking responsibility seriously. Even though that creek runs through our property, it is up to us to keep wandering cattle out of the creek so that their nutrient-rich manure doesn't turn the water eutrophic (overloaded with nutrients). When it comes to water, it is best to remember that we are all in this together. Aldo Leopold said that rivers are round. A river or stream is a cycle of energy from sun to plants to insects to fish. The continuum is broken only by humans.

Look forward to warmer weather.



## MONEY MATTERS

### **January 5 - 11**

General	\$2,440.00
Expenses	<u>\$1,470.67</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$969.33

### **January 12 - 18**

General	\$4,643.55
Expenses	<u>\$9,718.82</u>
Net Income (Loss)	(\$5,075.27)

### **January 19 - 25**

General	\$2,083.00
Expenses	<u>\$604.20</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$1,478.80

### **January 26 - February 1**

General	\$1,117.00
Expenses	<u>\$8,709.90</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$1,014.77

### **Total Contributions**

**\$10,283.55**

### **Total Expenses**

**\$20,503.59**

### **January Budget 2014**

Contributions	\$15,279.00
Expenses	\$17,051.46

On January 30, we borrowed an additional \$2,000 from our line-of-credit to cover the remaining amount from the \$6,400 required to pay for work completed on the stained glass window as there was only \$941.00 in the Stained Glass Account. The amount currently owed on the loan is \$3,800. We also made a payment on our benevolences due from 2013 in the amount of \$3,500. Without your generous Christmas donations, our line-of-credit balance would be much higher.

~Michelle

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** : Church Council

December 10, 2013

**Members Present:** Michelle Peaslee, Dan Berke, Howard Hanson, and Jim Tocko. Kris Husby and Marie Murrell were excused.

**Meeting called** to order by Jim Tocko at 7p.m.

Devotions by Jim Tocko "*On Humility*" by Thomas Merton.

**November Minutes:** Reviewed. Adjustment to read that \$1000 was paid to ILC from CBELC as an increase in their contribution to building and operating expenses.

Motion-Hanson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjerke; motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Peaslee is organizing and clarifying the reports for easier access and understanding. Still work in progress. Financial report accepted. Motion: Tocko 2<sup>nd</sup>: Hanson; motion carried.

**Property Report:** New Railing system almost complete. A team is ready to paint the hallways and entranceway as soon as the colors are chosen. 3 floor-tiles in the main hallway are loose and presently covered by a mat- this needs addressing ASAP.

### Ministry Reports:

**Stewardship:** Jan 26 Silent Pledge Sunday; pledge card to be mailed with giving statements. Discussion about a shift towards percentage giving rather than set amounts. Will re-address in Jan meeting.

**Staff:** Raises approved for Jeannette Tobiason and Michelle Peaslee in addition to Jennifer Susedik and Ronnette Nelson.

Sunday School Director now shared between Tera Gullicksrud and Sherry Bjerke and reflected in a split of same pay. Bonuses for staff were addressed and approved.

**Old Business:** Review of bylaws completed. Tocko and Pastor to collate changes for congregational availability in January.

### New Business:

**Newsletter:** In an effort to move towards being 'green', and to become better stewards of the church's finances, the Newsletter will be posted online beginning in January; a limited number of copies available in Narthex at beginning of the month; copies mailed only to shut-ins unless otherwise requested. Financial secretary to calculate potential savings. Motion: Tocko; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bjerke. Motion carried.

**Closing Prayer:** Luke 1: Magnificat and prayer by Pastor.

**Motion by Tocko for adjournment.** 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bjerke. Motion Carried. 8:45

Respectfully submitted.

Rev KD Taylor

## BIRTHDAYS

Chad Anderson	02/01	Ruth Traaseth	02/12	Ryan Olson	02/20
David Thronson	02/01	Judith Foss	02/13	Isabel McSorley	02/21
Julia Bjorgo	02/03	Cade McSorley	02/13	Janine Myren	02/21
Lois Hulberg	02/03	Kyle McSorley	02/13	Louise Hageness	02/22
Jackson Maki	02/04	Deloris Sather	02/13	Shawn Hanson	02/22
George Heinemann	02/05	Norma Berge	02/14	Tracie McSorley	02/22
Sheryl Helland	02/06	Carol Olson	02/15	Mark Rykoski	02/22
Mark Olson	02/06	Michael Tonn	02/15	Connor Schiefelbein	02/22
Sierra Boyd	02/07	Paige Ellifson	02/16	Jodie Semingson	02/23
Conrad Gullicksrud	02/07	Cheri Nelson	02/16	Callan Skoug	02/23
Timothy Haukeness	02/07	Brandon Anderson	02/17	Jerry Deetz	02/24
Emma Koxlien	02/07	Maria Breien	02/18	Angela Cole	02/26
Riley Cegielski	02/08	Lauren Haukeness	02/18	Barbara Nicolet	02/26
Ronald Myhers	02/08	Aloze Prudlick, Jr.	02/18	Thomas Gilbertson	02/27
Alex Thronson	02/09	Dennis Sather	02/18	Ardell Olson	02/27
Jill Koxlien	02/10	Tamara Guenther	02/19	Mason Taylor	02/28
Jade Austin	02/11	Nicole Ellifson	02/19		
Ronnie Bjorgo	02/12	Alyssa Halverson	02/20		

## MEMORIALS



### In Memory of Eunice Nelson

*Choir/Music Fund*  
Ronald and Patricia Runkel

*Endowment Fund*  
Marie Murrell

*Window Fund*  
Lavonne and Roger Turk

### In Memory of Marie Larson

*General Fund*  
Phyllis Semingson

### Memorial Funds

CBELC  
Endowment Fund  
Immanuel Chapel Fund  
Immanuel General Fund  
Immanuel Building Fund  
Immanuel Library Fund  
Immanuel Music Fund  
Immanuel Sunday School  
Immanuel Youth Fund  
Immanuel Window Fund  
St. Paul's Cemetery  
West Beef River Cemetery

***When writing a check,  
please make the check  
payable to the individual  
memorial fund.***

# February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School 1:00 Birthday Party Fireside Room Chancel Choir	3 3:45 Youth Choir	4 Text Study	5 1:30 W/ELCA 6:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Choir	6	7 Pastor's Sabbath	8 11-Noon Daughters of the King 5:00 pm Family Service
9 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Chancel Choir	10 3:45 Youth Choir	11 Text Study 7:00 Church Council	12 6:30 pm Confirmation No Choir	13 9-Noon Quilting 3-5pm Food Distribution City Hall	14 Pastor's Sabbath <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15
16 <i>Acoustic Sun!</i> 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion 11:00 am FAMILY FUN DAY!	17 No Youth Choir	18 Text Study 9-11 Food Pantry	19 6:30 pm Confirmation No Choir 1:30 Hope Circle @ church, Doris Anderson	20 6-10 pm WMEELS Fireside Room	21 Pastor's Sabbath	22
23 Community Table Immanuel Day! 9:00 Worship/ Baptism-Gabriella 10:00 Sunday School Chancel Choir	24 3:45 Youth Choir	25 Text Study	26 6:30 pm Confirmation 7pm Choir	27 9-Noon Quilting 6-10 pm WMEELS Fireside Room	28 Pastor's Sabbath	

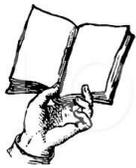
# FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



### **Greeters**

Feb 2 Jon & Amy Olson  
Feb 9 Mary Salava & Deloris Sather  
Feb 16 David & Dawn Erickson w/grandsons  
Feb 23 Dan & Sherry Bjerke  
Mar 2 Jim & Judy Foss



### **Readers**

Feb 2 Colleen Berge  
Feb 9 Matt Nelson  
Feb 16 Grant Austin  
Feb 23 Jim Tocko



### **Acolytes**

Feb 2 Blake Cegielski  
Feb 9 Grant Austin  
Feb 16 Abby Myren  
Feb 23 Tom Myren  
Mar 2 Isaac Hulberg



### **Communion Helpers**

Feb 2 Jon & Amy Olson  
Feb 16 Maiya McSorley & Rizzo Mora  
Mar 2 George & Lois Johnson

### **Altar Guild**

Feb 2 Carolyn Boehne  
Feb 16 Julie Bjorgo  
Mar 2 Ruth Eide



Robes Ruth Eide  
February Flowers Norma Berge  
March Flowers Dorothy Hulberg & Edith Olson

### **Ushers**

February  
\*Brian & Jared Schadrie, Dan & Thomas Myren,  
John, Brad, & Connor Windjue, Lucas Bauer  
March  
\*Scott & Justin Bjorgo, Ronnie & Troy Bjorgo, Peter  
Berge



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Strum, Wisconsin! We are a church family of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who as disciples of Christ, are gathered together to *embrace, encourage, and extend faith, hope, and love in Christ*. Embrace, encourage, and extend: these three descriptive words sum up the mission of our congregation in following the command of Christ to love one another. Through worship, education, fellowship, and service, we share that love for each other and our community so that lives may be enriched and faith strengthened. Immanuel Lutheran Church is a congregation that is steeped in history while also engaging the context of the village of Strum, the community as a whole, and the world. Come and see! There is a place for you!

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

Pastor ..... Rev. K D Taylor  
Administrator ..... Michelle Peaslee  
Custodian ..... Ronnette Nelson  
Organist/Music Director ..... Jeanette Tobiason  
Sunday School Directors ..... Tera Gullicksrud & Sherry Bjerke

**Creative Beginnings Early Learning Center**

Director ..... Keri Whitwam  
Administrative Assistant ..... Michelle Peaslee  
Lead Teacher—Forest Friends Room..... Theresa Bjorgo  
Lead Teacher—Lily Pad Room ..... Samantha Tetzlaff  
Lead Teacher—Monkey Room ..... Dusti Miland  
Assistant ..... Ronnette Nelson

**Council Members**

President ..... Jim Tocko  
Secretary ..... Kris Husby  
Treasurer ..... Michelle Peaslee  
Member-at-large ..... Dan Bjerke  
Member-at-large ..... Howard Hanson  
Member-at-large ..... Marie Murrell

ILC Office ..... (715) 695-3511  
CBELC Office ..... (715) 695-3954

**Dial-up Service ..... (715) 695-3906**

[www.immanuel-strum.com](http://www.immanuel-strum.com)

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

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