

Immanuel Lutheran Church

February 2014

The Church Messenger

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

Stuff. . . 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 5th 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 3rd 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 (2nd 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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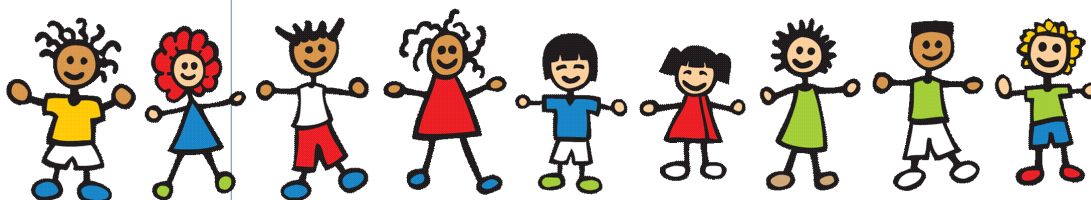
Bowl-Winkles

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.

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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 13th: Preschool Valentine's Day party

February 17th: Midwest Dental field trip

February 21st: 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; 2nd 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 2nd: 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; 2nd: Bjerke. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Tocko for adjournment. 2nd 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

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Immanuel Lutheran Church

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