

IMMANUEL NEWS

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A Word From The Pastor

“IT IS STILL EASTER!”

I have had more people comment in very favorable ways about our recent Lenten/Easter Season than any previous year, at least in my memory. I do not know if the long and dreary winter had something to do with this, OR maybe what was done, said and witnessed just touched more people this year.

Whatever the reason, it is good to know that our worship and spiritual response was very positive because it means that all of the planning, work and participation was well worth the effort.

The five persons who did the Lenten monologues presented them with such feeling and passion that it warmed all of us who witnessed them. Someone said to me that having others do these monologues gave the pastors extra time instead of having to prepare additional sermons! That is true but that is NOT the reason for doing them as we did.

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Christian Ed.
Director
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Linda Stoecklin
Parish Nurse
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Carolyn Rock
Minister of Music
Home:
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A Word From The Pastor continued...

The reason for doing the monologues is because it presents the Gospel in new ways, through drama, and through different voices from those who gave the presentations. In my opinion the monologues were very well written. The author was Harold D. Shaffer, a lay person who is a licensed clinical counselor. He is also on the adjunct faculty of Baltimore City Community College and the Maryland Office of Education and Training for Addiction Services.

For me, Mr. Shaffer's professional background and experience no doubt influenced his understanding and perspective of the five persons: Peter, John, Judas, Mary the mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene. There is always an advantage of seeing a person's life and experiences from a NEW point of view. The monologues certainly did this and we were the benefactors this year.

The special music which was presented throughout Lent and Easter, including the Easter Cantata was magnificent and enhanced the worship experiences greatly.

So, I want to thank EVERYONE who helped in ANY way to make the Lent/Easter Season very memorable. I entitled this article, "It is Still Easter." And it is true that the Easter Season goes until Ascension Day which is 40 days after Easter! This year that is May 13th.

As Christians we celebrate Easter EVERY SUNDAY of the year as it is the first day of the week and the first day of the week is a celebration of Christ's resurrection! So we need to live with the joy of Easter all the time, since God's power to conquer death, sin and evil never ends! Easter may be one day a year, but its power and good news is to be felt, lived and experienced every day.

In Christian Love,
Pastor Tom

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

WHAT IS SOCIAL JUSTICE?

As we continue in the Easter Season and get ready for Pentecost, the coming of the HOLY SPIRIT, it is so important to celebrate what Christ has given to us and commissioned us to be about. We are called to spread the life-changing Good News that Jesus is not dead, but he is alive! At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit fills those first followers with gifts and voice to work for the Kingdom of God. But, we are not just called to know this news, we are challenged to live out the love Christ has first blessed us with that we may be a blessing to the world.

That is why Christians are so concerned about social justice. Social Justice is a phrase so overused today. Quite simply, it is an important aspect of living out the faith of Jesus Christ. Jesus, who healed the many He met, forgave the woman about to be stoned, and called an unlikely cast of disciples to show that in the way of God our worldly practices can result at times in real injustice. With God, all things are possible.

Social Justice was why in many ways Jesus did things that set things on their head. When Jesus healed on the Sabbath, He challenged the priests and scribes to face how their rules became more important than the people they served. Jesus told of a Good Samaritan to set in their heads the idea that hate, well learned, among different peoples must be overcome. Jesus broke rules on how women, the sick and lame, and “sinners and tax collectors” were treated. Social Justice is a call to look deeper beyond what we have learned or seen, to what is fundamentally right.

How do we treat different groups of people, issues of the day, or situations that cause conflict and disharmony? The challenge of Christianity is to live out our faith in how we approach all these issues. We still have the poor, sick, the outcast; it just looks different than it did in biblical times. The Bible uses the term widows and orphans. What terms do we hear today? Homeless? Discriminated people? Oppressed? Our words have changed, but the challenge of how we faithfully respond has not. Social Justice is an essential part of sharing and living out the Good News that Jesus Christ lives in all our actions!

Historically, the call for Social Justice led to many of the historical ministries we support today. Emmaus Homes, Evangelical Children’s Home, Deaconess Nurses, and Neighborhood Houses are all a result of faithful action for Social Justice. I pray that we will continue to live out our faith and meet the new challenges that arise. As people of faith, let’s make a difference together!

In Christ’s Love, Pastor Randy

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On one of our first really warm days this April I took Gunnar for a walk around the neighborhood. I was trying to get in a mile before dinner and hoping to wear him out a bit too. As we started out going up Church street Gunnar was really excited and jumping and running along as we headed up the hill. But the further we got from home the more anxious he became. Once he couldn’t see our house anymore and didn’t quite know where he was the nervous panic set in. I continued to reassure him that I knew where we were and that I was with him on our walk. He didn’t need to be afraid. But he was. We were walking in a place he has been hundreds of times in the car but it was unfamiliar to him and even though I was there it was still scary. Eventually he got the idea that I would be with him the whole way and that I did know where we were going and could get us home.

It occurred to me as we were walking, that on our faith journeys we are all Gunnar at different points and we are all the reassuring parents at others. We need our Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, pastors and friends in the pew to help us to navigate new places in our faith we haven’t been before. Most of those experiences are exciting and thrilling but some are a bit unnerving. Once we have been through an experience we are able to help others as they learn and grow in their faith too. This is one of the many reasons we need our faith community, our church family. Without others to guide us and encourage us along the way it would be very difficult to do alone.

We are beginning our Summer Sunday School rotation in a few weeks. We have some wonderful teachers ready to lead our children down a new and exciting path on their journey. Our faithful regular teachers will be getting a chance to rest and renew and perhaps be led by someone else for a bit. Working together each one of us has a chance to be challenged to new experiences and for that I am very thankful.

In Christian Love,
Karin Oelzen

A NOTE FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

Are You an Active Member of Your Health Care Team?

Your medical team consists of physicians, physician's assistants, nurses, pharmacists, and **you**. You need to play an active role in your health care decision making. So many people go to the doctor and do not ask questions or do not go prepared for their visit.

Visiting a doctor's office can make you nervous, impatient, or even scared. Later, you might remember something you forgot to ask. Or you may forget what the doctor or nurse said. Being prepared can help you get the information you need to improve your health. Here are some things you can bring to make the most of your visit:

1. Lists of your concerns, questions, any allergies and all the medications, herbs, or vitamins you take.
2. A description of symptoms - when they started, what makes them better or worse.
3. A notepad and a pen for taking notes on the answers the doctor gives you.
4. A trusted friend or relative.
5. If you are seeing a doctor for the first time, have a medical history written down: i.e. diseases, surgeries, and treatments. It makes it easier for you to remember, especially if you must fill out forms for the doctor's office.
6. Follow directions and become informed.
7. Be prepared to report back to the doctor how you are feeling and notify your team if you are having any problems.

Make sure you understand your diagnosis and any treatments. Ask your health care provider to write down his or her instructions to you. Having an extra pair of eyes and ears during a visit is invaluable. Choose someone that can help you understand all of the information.

Being prepared not only helps you but also helps the doctor. It makes it easier to develop a plan of care if you take an active part in the gathering of information.

Peace and Love,

Linda

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA!!!

As Director of Music at Immanuel, I have had many proud moments! Sunday, April 11 will always rank as one of those, mountain-top experiences, for me. I was very proud of all who participated in the Easter Cantata, "*Come, Touch the Robe*" which was simple but expertly written by Pepper Choplin. My first reaction following the early service was, WOW, that went very well. By the end of the second service I was emotionally and physically spent. I knew the choir had given their best and they have every reason to be very proud of their presentation. They interpreted the music beautifully and watched closely as they blended with the orchestra throughout. Our musicians, five of whom were guest artists, also excelled and helped to make the overall cantata one of the very best. Thanks to all!!!

I am writing this article one week before the full church orchestra plays on April 25, but I know that they too will play well and bring an added dimension to our worship services.

In May, our full choirs and musicians will start winding down to finish their calendar season and begin a well-deserved summer rest. That means, beginning on Sunday, May 30, our summer schedule begins which provides an opportunity for small vocal and instrumental ensembles, i.e. solos, duets, trios, etc., to share their talents in worship. If you would like to provide special music on a given Sunday throughout the summer, please let me know ASAP, as the calendar tends to fill quickly once I begin to twist a few arms here and there. Just email me your desire and chosen Sunday, so I can give you first choice.

MUSIC MINISTRY continued ...

***May 2010 Rehearsal Schedule
Singers & Ringers Mark your calendars!!***

Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, May 6 – NO CHOIR REHEARSAL

Sanctuary Choir

Thursdays, May 13 & 20, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Reception Room

Sunday School Singers

Sunday, May 2, 9:30 – 10 a.m. – Music Room

Our May Sunday music consists of the following:

May 2	Sanctuary Choir and Crescendo Ringers
May 9	Men's Chorus, Sunday School Singers and Cherubs
May 16	Youth Sunday
May 23	Sanctuary Choir (last Sunday)
May 30	Open

Once again, thanks to everyone who has sung or played in a choir, provided a solo, rung a bell, played an instrument or helped in any other way to make this 2009-2010 music ministry year a wonderful experience for listeners and especially your director. I Thank You!

*...Do we or do we not believe the news is good?
If the news is good...SING!*

Ann Weems

Carolyn Rock, Minister of Music

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINUTES

April 6, 2010

Average Sunday School attendance for March was 66.75 with no perfect attendance numbers available.

Youth Group gatherings have changed in format to overnights to perhaps promote more participation for preparations for Youth Sunday. The next one is scheduled for 4/30 - 5/1/10.

Chuckie's Day of Fun scheduled for 4/24 with a mystery tour theme, Senior High Restaurant is 4/25. More exciting times to be shared.

The Crib and Toddler room received 2 glider rockers donated by Ms. Nancy Spitzenberg and are very appreciative. Camping Sunday is just around the corner with offering envelopes dated for 4/25. Vacation church school is scheduled for 7/12 through 7/16 with more details to follow.

Lengthy discussions in reference to changes being made in the 3 year old room, Church-wide Picnic, Summer Festival, as well as a portion of the Leadership Retreat Enhancing the educational programs at Immanuel.

Our next meeting will be May 4 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Prayerfully submitted,
Brenda Bogdajewicz

APRIL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

By Pastor Tom

PLEASE TAKE NOTE! The Church Council has approved four maintenance bids totaling \$15,070. AND WE DO NOT HAVE THE MONEY UNLESS WE TAKE IT FROM THE INTEREST IN THE ENDOWMENT FUND. The major project is to have the exterior of the church building painted, this is a must! The other three items are much smaller in scope and include retiling the floor in the men's restroom, insulating the pipes in the kitchen, and painting the garage outside the church building. All of these projects involve the church sanctuary building.

What I am asking is that those who might be financially able to help, PLEASE DO SO NOW by writing a check designating it to the Building & Capital Improvement Fund. Having to update the cooling system in the sanctuary recently, it depleted our built up reserves by over \$30,000. Coupled with sewer repair we are in need to replenishing BUILDING & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.

The Annual Meeting of the Missouri Mid-South Conference will be held at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri June 11-13. Karin Oelzen, Moderator of the Conference, will be completing her term of office at this meeting. Our voting delegates will be Linda Ferber, Scott Oelzen and Carol Shinn.

We are having MAJOR problems with the United States Post Office in regards to mailing the monthly newsletters. Every month they call to say that something is not done right and then the next month when we do it that way they want it done differently. The result is that we are looking into alternative ways of distributing our newsletters. We will look into having them electronically e-mailed for those who have computers and then mail the rest first class. This is not a definite change, but we are looking into solutions. A partial solution is that inactive members may have their names removed from the mailing list.

GIVE A LIFE-SAVING GIFT AT THE RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Our next Red Cross Blood Drives (TWO!), sponsored by Mission Outreach, are scheduled for **Sundays, August 1st & September 26th**! Representatives from the Red Cross will be available to take donations from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon in Immanuel's Fellowship Hall. Blood supplies are very low, so this is a great time to give ... and help save a life! People wishing to donate should also ensure that their iron levels are within acceptable ranges by eating iron rich foods such as raisins and dark green leafy vegetables (spinach) prior to donating. Also eliminating iced tea and highly caffeinated beverages will help with iron absorption to ensure acceptable iron levels. So, **mark these dates on your calendar!** If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, please contact Krescene Beck @ 618-205-3188.



YOUTH CALENDAR

Youth Sunday Preparation (Grades 6-12)

Friday, April 30th-Saturday, May 1st Overnighter
We will gather at Immanuel and spend time planning and preparing for Youth Sunday. There will be time for fun and fellowship as well as rest and renewal. Breakfast and lunch on Saturday will be provided and youth are asked to bring a snack to share on Saturday night. Please bring your Bibles, sleeping gear and shower supplies if you would like to shower.

This will be a joint Junior and Senior High Event.
(IF you can't make the entire retreat, please come for what you can. Your Youth Sunday input is so important!)

Thursday, May 13th 7:00-9:30 p.m. Rehearsal
Meet in the Sanctuary for our rehearsal time. We will set up and run through all parts of the worship service. IF you can't attend please let Karin O. know that you want to participate so that appropriate parts may be assigned.

Saturday, May 15th 9:30a.m.-noon Final Rehearsal
Gather in the Sanctuary for our final Youth Sunday Rehearsal. We will practice the entire service several times. There are parts for all youth who wish to participate so please come to this rehearsal even if you couldn't attend any other. We need all youth to make this day the best Youth Sunday!

Sunday, May 16th YOUTH SUNDAY Both services
We will be leading the worship services this morning at both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. times. Arrival times will be announced during rehearsal on Saturday. There are parts for all - so come and help lead an amazing worship time.

Senior High (Grades 9-12)

Saturday, May 8th Chuckie's Day of Fun Time TBA
Plan to gather for a day of Go Cart Racing and a meal after. We will be teaming up with Pastor Polly's Emmanuel Youth Group for this event. Cost is \$10 for every ten laps and the meal after.

Young Adult Group (Post High School to 30ish)

Saturday, May 22nd Elephant Rocks Day Trip
9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Calling all Wolverines! We will be gathering at Immanuel at 9:30 a.m.—yes in the morning!—and carpooling to Elephant Rocks State Park in Iron County. Plan to bring a picnic lunch (coolers will be available) to eat there. You will also need a water bottle, sun screen, good shoes for walking and appropriate clothes for the weather. This will be a fun day to hang together and enjoy God's beautiful creation in nature. Friends are welcome. Call Karin O. with any questions.

LECTIONARY

May 2, 2010

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Color: White

First Lesson: Acts 11:1-18

Second Lesson:

Revelation 21:1-6

Gospel Lesson: John 13:31-35

May 9, 2010

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Color: White

First Lesson: Acts 16:9-15

Second Lesson:

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Gospel Lesson: John 14:23-29

May 16, 2010

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Color: White

First Lesson: Acts 16:16-34

Second Lesson:

Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Gospel Lesson: John 17:20-26

May 23, 2010

Pentecost Sunday

Color: Red

First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

Second Lesson:

Romans 8:14-17

Gospel Lesson:

John 14:8-17, (25-27)

May 30, 2010

The Holy Trinity /

First Sunday After Pentecost

Color: White or Green

First Lesson: Proverbs 8:1-4,
22-31

Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-5

Gospel Lesson: John 16:12-15

LAY READERS

Sunday, May 2, 2010

8:30 a.m. Paul Hildebrand

10:00 a.m. Stephanie Sittingdown

Sunday, May 9, 2010

8:30 a.m. Karin Oelzen

10:00 a.m. Kermine Thies

Sunday, May 16, 2010

8:30 a.m. George Hildebrand

10:00 a.m. Stephen Duncan

Sunday, May 23, 2010

8:30 a.m. Brad Beck

10:00 a.m. Tim Guethler

Sunday, May 30, 2010

8:30 a.m. Barb Grindstaff

10:00 a.m. TBA

ACOLYTES

Sunday, May 2, 2010

Melissa Lukes &

Melesa Viehmann

Sunday, May 9, 2010

Kaitlyn Farnsworth & Ellie Preis

Sunday, May 16, 2010

Tyler Harrelson & Miles Thies

Sunday, May 23, 2010

Cam Viehmann & Ryan Boatright

Sunday, May 30, 2010

Desmond Jason & Rex Haynes

GREETERS

Sunday, May 2, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Al & Bernice Topp

10:00 a.m.

Paul & Joanne Viehmann

Sunday, May 9, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Jean Montgomery & Lois Schuette

10:00 a.m.

Ron & Karen Caguin

Sunday, May 16, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Ken Dow & Beverly Dow

10:00 a.m.

Gene & Imogene Bilyeu

Sunday, May 23, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Bill & Jerry Becker

10:00 a.m.

Jeff & Carrie Seeley

Sunday, May 30, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Audrey Turner & Evelyn Horner

10:00 a.m.

John & Brenda Bogdajewicz

FRONT DOOR EVANGELISM GREETERS

May, 2010

8:30 a.m.

Betty Thompson & Barb Higgins

10:00 a.m.

Darrell & Cindy Thies

BETHEL BIBLE STUDY

The Bethel Leader's Class is presently in the Old Testament between the Hebrews journeying in the wilderness and settling into the Promised Land with Joshua. The class will be studying the Old Testament till the end of October. In 2011, they will focus on the New Testament. Classes will begin in January 2012 for the wider congregation. So, pray for these leaders as they discern their gifts for teaching and their gifts that will be shared with you!

The 26 students that Pastor Randy is leading through the Bible:

Brad Beck, Todd and Amber Bill, Dwain Bollinger, Rose Bollinger, Bruce Davis, Juli Duncan, Tony & Marlene Wright, Paul & Joyce Holland, Keith Wogtech, John Leber, Marty Schuster, Sue Schuster (St. John's UCC), Pam Patton (Church of the Master), Scott Oelzen, Beverly Orwig, Fran Panagos, Matt & Kim Lytle, Paul & Joanne Viehmann, Kurt Thies, Judi Kraft, and Jeanette Monnig.

Your prayers, support, and encouragement are greatly appreciated

Learn more about Bethel Bible Series at www.bethelseries.com

ATTENTION ALL WALKERS & RUNNERS!!! FERGUSON 5K WALK/RUN-SAT. MAY 15 @ 6 PM

Two important priorities of our church's strategic goals are to be involved in Ferguson activities as a presence for the church and to create new opportunities for fellowship. Those two come together if we can FORM TEAM IMMANUEL! We want to get anyone interested in a healthy lifestyle to join together to either walk or run in this first annual 5K (about 3 mile) starting at the new pavilion at the corner of Suburban and S. Florissant Rd. We will also need spectators and there will be a lot for those cheering us on as well. Food and a concert will also be happening at the site. So, how about it! If you are game, call the church office and let us know you want to be on TEAM IMMANUEL! Just think what a presence we will be for the many new neighbors we will encounter. We are planning on having T-shirts made if the team is big enough, for both walkers and cheering section, so sign up as soon as you can! Remember, call the office, 521-7324 today and say YES!
P.S. We have around 10 - so help us grow!

BROTHERS IN CHRIST WORK DAY AT CHURCH SATURDAY MAY 8 9AM-12 NOON

This is a new date after a necessary postponement. The men of the church are invited to come for a quick breakfast, then outside and inside work depending on our turnout. We have a list and we need you to accomplish it! In the process of working, we will get to know one another a little bit better. So, come one, come all, come young, come not-so-young!

Please bring rakes, trimmers, blowers, leaf collectors, bags, gloves, and a willingness to put in some honest work to make our church even more beautiful for Mother's Day. Contact the church office if you plan to attend.

ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

PLEASE send a recent picture of yourself, information on where you are graduating from, and what your future plans are to the Church Office NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 30th! We would like to display pictures of ALL GRADUATES OF IMMANUEL during graduate recognition, which will take place during morning worship sometime in June 2010. Thank you!

IMMANUEL BOOK CLUB

IMMANUEL BOOK CLUB this month will meet on Sunday, May 16th at 5:00 p.m. (*please note the time change*). We will gather at the new Apt. home of Barb & George Krewson (Our Lady of Life Apts. at 7655 Watson Road, #350). We will begin with a Pot Luck supper, then discuss the book, "*The Art of Racing In the Rain*" by Garth Stein. Barb needs a count of those attending NO LATER than MONDAY, MAY 10TH! To RSVP, or for information or directions, please call Barb at 314-961-4278. ALL are WELCOME!

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

BRAUCH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This scholarship fund was established by the Brauch family and is offered to college students. Up to two scholarships will be awarded. Those applying need to be active members of Immanuel and must be attending an accredited college or university while seeking an undergraduate degree. A financial statement (including the cost of tuition, room board and books, other scholarships, other sources of estimated income and the uncovered balance) must also be submitted. For further information, please contact Rev. Higgins at the church office (314-521-7324). **Applications are available in the church office and must be returned to Rev. Higgins NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2010!**

GLENN FOX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now being accepted for the Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship, which is available to all active members of Immanuel. Applicants must be enrolled at an accredited college, university or specialty school. If you would like more information regarding this scholarship, contact Terry Fox (636-949-5223) or Pastor Higgins at the church office (314-521-7324). **Applications are available in the church office and MUST BE RETURNED BY JUNE 30, 2010**

BROTHERS' IN CHRIST SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Formerly Men's Fellowship Scholarship Fund)

The Brothers' In Christ Organization is accepting scholarship applications for seminary students studying for the Christian ministry and nursing students enrolled in an accredited nursing school studying for an RN or BA. **Applications are available in the church office and MUST BE RETURNED BY JUNE 30, 2010!** For further information, contact Richard Viehmann (636-940-9527), Ken Klasing (636-561-2254) or John Leber (314-731-2922).

DEACONESS PARISH NURSE MINISTRIES 20th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries, a Missouri non-profit organization, provides health education, health counseling, resource referral, support groups, and other health-related services through diverse faith communities and faith-based organizations in the Greater Metropolitan St Louis area, including Metro East. This is the organization that supports our Parish Nurse, Linda Stoecklin and 51 other nurses.

On Thursday, May 6, 2010, Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries will celebrate its 20th Anniversary by hosting a dinner and silent auction at the Sheraton Chalet in Westport Plaza. The nurses will be honoring some of the organization's pioneers, among them our own, good Pastor Thomas Higgins.

On behalf of dinner celebration Co-Chairs, Eileen McGartland, Assistant Director of Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries and Virginia Viehmann, we invite all to join us for a delicious dinner and a fun, informative and festive evening. Dinner reservations are \$100 per person and both Nurse Linda and Virginia will have invitations available and both will be delighted to provide any additional information regarding Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries and its 20th Anniversary Celebration.

ALL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Immanuel's Spring Rummage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010 beginning at **7 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall of the Christian Education Building. Please place your donated items to sell on the stage in Fellowship Hall. If you come during the week with items, please call the Church Office (314-521-7324) before coming, to be sure someone is there to let you in. **We will need volunteers to help** set up on Friday, May 14th at 9 a.m., and to also be there the day of the sale! Please let Bonnie White (314-521-6075) or Kermine Thies (314-382-7243) know if you are able to help in any way. Thank you!

CELEBRATING THE IMMANUEL CHURCH FAMILY! 2010 All-Church Pictorial Directory Sign-up Begins May 23

Dear Church Family,

Just think, do you have those moments when you see a well known face, but can't come up with a name? Do you see someone come into worship and you are not sure if they are a visitor or a member? Wouldn't it be great to celebrate the church family that we are with another way to get to know each other?

Well, every 5 years we make that possible with our very own pictorial directory! How do we make that happen? IT IS NOT POSSIBLE UNLESS WE GET YOUR PICTURE IN THIS BOOK! The first step is to get signed up. Those sign-ups begin before and after each worship service May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, & 27. Simply stop by the table in the foyer of the sanctuary to set your appointment. With your help, we will truly celebrate our church family!

Is that enough? There is still more you can do!

- Contact your family members to make sure they sign-up.
- If you have a college student who is away right now, make sure you help them get signed up or send a picture.
- We will be taking pictures while some may be planning vacations. Make sure we know if you can't make it on our dates because we can set you up for pictures at other times.
- If you know someone who isn't a regular at worship right now, contact them to let them know we want them to get their appointment set up to complete our family album.
- If you are not a member, **YOU ARE STILL WELCOME TO GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN!** You are a part of the church family and you are in our celebration.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY continued ...

If you don't sign-up, or are not able to at worship, you will have two other options. In early June, you will be able to sign-up ONLINE. You will be able to set the appointment by going to our own website: www.immanuelucc.org and link to Olan Mills for sign-up. Second, Olan Mills will be calling all the members who don't sign-up. The words "CHURCH DIRECTORIES" will appear on your caller ID when they call. If their friendly telephone callers don't reach you, then Marion Cross, our chair, or someone from the church will be calling. **WE WANT YOU!** So we hope you sign up as soon as possible. We will be taking pictures on Wednesday-Saturday July 28-31; and Monday-Wednesday August 2-4. The sooner you sign-up, the best time is awaiting you.

Finally, the Olan Mills company has been honing their skills in the church directory business. They assure us that if you want to purchase their quality pictures, they will be most helpful in making things right. If you can't afford to buy at this time, you will still get a free 8x10 portrait and a free copy of the directory. As a side note, if you want extended family pictures, they can accommodate that. There will be no pressure and we can't wait to be able to complete this directory. So, now it is up to you!
-The Church Directory Committee

DONATE TO THE BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR

The Back to School Health Fair sponsored by Interfaith Partnership/Faith Beyond Walls and the Kinloch Learning Center are looking for donations of school supplies to make their event a success! Thank you for your support!

Notebook Paper	Pocket Folders
Spiral Notebooks	#2 Pencils
Crayons (24 count)	Ink pens (blue, red and black)
Blunt Tip Scissors	Glue Sticks
Erasers	3 Ring Binders
Highlighters	Markers

School supplies will be collected during May and June. Please place donated supplies in the marked bin in the Reception Room.

MO CWU NEWS RELEASE

The Executive Board of Church Women United (CWU) in Missouri has elected Nancy Remmert, a member of Immanuel United Church of Christ, as President for the State of Missouri Unit. Church Women United is a National Movement founded in 1941. It is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive women's movement, celebrating diversity and working for a world of peace and justice.

Church Women United in the St. Louis area is divided into six geographical units under the umbrella of the St. Louis Metropolitan Unit. Local Units relate to the State Unit which is part of the South Central Region of the National CWU. Mrs. Remmert has been active in the movement since 1966 and has served in various offices in the North St. Louis County Unit as well as the St. Louis Metropolitan Unit.

The St. Louis Metropolitan Unit honored Mrs. Remmert with the Valiant Woman award in January, 2009. This award is granted through the National CWU to women who have given service to CWU, her church and her community and strives to live the Gospel message in her everyday life.

Mrs. Remmert was the St. Louis Association Honored Laywoman at the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in 2001.

She and her husband Bob are the proud parents of four children and seven grandchildren. They have lived in Ferguson since their marriage in 1956. They joined Immanuel United Church of Christ in 2000 after the closing of Faith Salem United Church of Christ in Jennings where they had been members for over 50 years.

MISSION OUTREACH WITH MARK BEHLE

Mission Outreach invites you to spend the evening with Mark Behle on Monday, May 17, at 7 pm in the Reception Room (under church). Enjoy desserts and fellowship as you learn about Mark's ministry in Lesotho, South Africa. Reservations are not needed, and friends are always welcome!

CANCELED STAMPS ARE STILL NEEDED!

Since 2001, people at Ebenezer "Stone" Church, north of Gerald, MO, have been collecting used postage stamps for Bethel bei Bielefeld in Germany. Currently, people in 20 other congregations, including Immanuel, assist by also collecting stamps for this on-going project.

Bethel bei Bielefeld is a village of some 5,000 people all with developmental disabilities. It was founded by Pastor Friedrich von Bodelschwingh in 1872, and is the mother institution for the Marthasville, MO Emmaus Home which was established in 1893.

All across Germany, at the age of about 10, school children start collecting postage stamps. The schools supervise this activity, and it is used in connection with teaching geography, history, and social studies. At Bethel bei Bielefeld, 120 residents "process" postage stamps which come from all over the world. They are packaged in cellophane bags and then sold in variety stores with the proceeds helping to support the program at Bethel. School children are the best customers.

The Reverend Richard Brueseke and his wife Libby have visited Bethel bei Bielefeld and seen the stamp project in operation. Before his retirement, Pastor Brueseke was the Pastor at Ebenezer "Stone" Church. In his retirement he continues to organize the stamp project.

Bob Remmert is the person at Immanuel who sees that the canceled stamps donated by Immanuel members are forwarded to Pastor Brueseke. This is one more way to "recycle" items that would ordinarily be thrown away. All types of stamps are accepted, even the very ordinary ones and the forever stamps. Do not trim the envelope material too closely to the stamp. Please leave about 3/8 of an inch of paper around the stamp so that they can be processed properly. There are collection boxes in the Narthex of the church, in the Reception Room and at the Church Office for your donations.

Thanks for continuing to support this project.

MAY 23rd IS STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH MISSION OFFERING

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, we will be receiving the Strengthen The Church Special Mission Offering as part of Immanuel's ministry through the United Church of Christ. This offering is dedicated to "*Faithfully Building the Body of Christ*" by starting new churches where the need is great and renewing existing congregations that need only some assistance from us to thrive again. Through our gifts to Strengthen The Church, we further our commitment to be a multiracial, multicultural church, open and affirming and accessible to all. Strengthen The Church also funds leadership for new congregations, new programs for youth and young adults, and leadership programs for the whole church. Half of Immanuel's gifts go to our conference and half to local church ministries. Because the Strengthen The Church offering envelope is part of your current packet. Please prayerfully consider how important a strong and vital church is to you and your family, and make a gift through the Strengthen The Church Special Mission Offering.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 100th Anniversary Celebration

The 100th Anniversary Celebration continues with our May 6, 2010 special Anniversary Meeting! Former Presidents, former members, friends of the fellowship, both women & men of the church are invited to join us for this special catered lunch. We begin with Bible Study at 10 a.m., followed by lunch, and then a special presentation recalling our history and lifting up highlights of our group. If you are interested in attending this special meeting, please make reservations with Jean Vortmeier, 636-946-9262; or Jean Klasing, 314-355-6487. Cost of the meal is \$5.00 which is collected the day of the meeting.

Nancy Remmert, President

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL 2010 Hero Headquarters!! Where Kids Join Forces With God!

Vacation Church School, will be July 12-16, 2010, Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. **Heroes Do the Unexpected, Take Action, Step Out on Faith, Save the Day and Stand for Truth!!** Children ages 3 years to 6th grade are invited! Teen helpers 7th grade and up can help and earn service hours. Volunteers to teach classes, assist in classrooms, and lead group activities are **ALL NEEDED!** Learn about God our Hero through His Amazing Feats!! If you are able to help in any capacity, please contact Amy Leslie at 314-831-7853. VCS is sponsored by the Ferguson Partnership of Churches, which includes: Ferguson United Methodist, 1st Presbyterian, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, Immanuel UCC, St. Peters UCC, St. Stephens Episcopal and Zion Lutheran. To sign up, please pick up a registration form from the church office or see the insert at the back of this newsletter.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TRIP

We invite you to the Women's Fellowship Trip on Thursday, June 3rd, 2010. They will be going for a tour of Alton, Illinois, a chicken dinner at Pierre Marquette, a visit to Eckert's Orchard and a stop at Grafton's Ice Company! The cost is \$55/person. Reservations and payment **MUST BE MADE** by April 15th. Call Linda Ferber at 314-822-3222 for additional information and to make a reservation.

Dear Immanuel,
Thank you so much for the care package. All the cookies didn't help my Lenten promise too much, but my friends sure enjoyed them!
And I guess sharing the love of our church, beyond our members, is never a bad thing. Thanks again!

Love,

Erin Casey

Immanuel,
Thank you so much for the big box of cookies! It was very thoughtful and I can't wait to eat them! Not only was I excited to get the cookies but it was exciting just to get a package!

Thanks again!

Michelle Berryman

Dear Immanuel Friends and Family,
Thank you so much for all of your thoughts and prayers these past few months while Emily was in the NICU and when she was having tests done. January and February were stressful months for our family, but with your support we made it through. We are so grateful to have you all! Emily is doing great now and all of her tests came back with good results. She really enjoyed meeting her Immanuel friends, and can't wait to meet more!

Love,

Matt, Heather, and Emily Lanfer

We wish to thank everyone for their thoughts, cards and prayers. It meant so much to us, to know our church family was there for us. A special thank you to Linda Stoecklin's visits and help while we were in the hospital and rehab.

John and June Renfro

Dear Immanuel Friends,
We want to express our deepest thanks for being there for us at Helen Webber's home going. We want to thank Pastor Tom for his visits, support and encouragement; the hospitality group for a delicious meal; Carolyn Rock for playing the organ at the memorial service and taking care of our other technical needs; Brad and Jo Snead who served as ushers; and the many others we were unaware of their help. We want to thank all those who sent cards, visited Helen, those who attended her memorial service and those who were praying for her. Thank you!

Sincerely,

John and Family

Dear Friends in Christ,
"No one hears the cries of the poor, or the sound of a wooden bell." Haitian proverb
Thank you for being among the compassionate who have heard the cries of our sisters and brothers in Haiti and have responded with a generous donation to the United Church of Christ Haiti Earthquake Relief fund. We recorded your gift of \$1,090.00 on 3/5/2010 as per your request. The United Church of Christ is using Haiti Earthquake relief funds to support the relief efforts of several partners including Church World Service, ACT Alliance and Global Ministries. UCC supported efforts include distribution of water, food packages, blankets, hygiene and baby kits and medicines and medical supplies. We are also engaged in construction of temporary water systems and latrines. Haiti Earthquake relief funds will also be utilized in the months and years to come, as we accompany our Haitian sisters and brothers on the long, long journey of recovery, restoration and renewal. Thank you for making the journey possible.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Sanders

One Great Hour of Sharing Administrator

Dear Immanuel United Church of Christ-Brothers in Christ Org.,
On behalf of the children and families served by Neighborhood Houses, I wish to thank you for your generous gift of \$500.00 on 2/1/2010. We are so happy that your annual Wurstmarkt was a success, and we thank you for remembering us again this year. Your gift is so important because it impacts the quality of life for hundreds of children and families of St. Louis City every day. Living in neighborhoods plagued with the devastating effects of poverty/unemployment, low educational attainment, and lack of access to needed resources – these families face an uphill battle in meeting the developmental and educational needs of their children. Inside their own schools and neighborhoods, your gift is at work, providing healthy food, academic reinforcements, and creative opportunities that allow them to show us all that they can be. Neighborhood Houses could not carry forth this important ministry without the generous support of a caring community. Thank you again for your thoughtful gift to Neighborhood Houses.
Most sincerely,
Darlene Y. Sowell, President and CEO

COME JOIN US! NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Pastor Tom & Pastor Randy will have a new member orientation on Thursday, May 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of the Educational Building. If you have been visiting and would like to learn more about Immanuel and the United Church of Christ and join our church family, please call Pastor Tom or Pastor Randy. There will also be a new member luncheon held on Sunday, June 6th at 11:30 a.m. in the Reception Room (located beneath the Sanctuary). You will be received into membership on Sunday, June 13th during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship service. Questions? Call Pastor Tom or Pastor Randy at 314-521-7324. COME JOIN US!!

Dear Friends,
Thank you for contributing to Church World Service through our Blankets+ program. With your help we can continue to assist people overcome by natural and human-caused disasters, as well as supporting community efforts to develop sustainable agriculture, reliable safe water supplies, and other means to break the grip of grinding poverty. Please accept this honor certificate as a sign of our gratitude for your support. We hope you will display it proudly as a sign of our partnership in building a world with enough for all.
Sincerely,
Rev. John L. McCullough
Executive Director and CEO Church World Service

Dear Friends in Christ:
Thank your for your generous gift(s) received during the months of September through December 2009 of \$1,200.00 to support Chicago, United, and Eden Seminaries. Your contribution will provide critical support for each seminary. Thank you for making theological education a vital ministry of your congregation. Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries provide a vital ministry in the United Church of Christ by training equipping leaders for ministry with individuals, congregations, and in the wider world. Each seminary strengthens the life of the church by enlivening critical reflection on faith, and supporting bold Christian discipleship. Each school is a vibrant, caring, and challenging place in which to pursue theological education. Chicago, United and Eden Seminaries strengthen our churches by providing lay theological education programs and continuing education for the leaders in our churches. The seminaries bring greater vitality to our churches – in worship, in Christian education for all ages, and in providing meaningful justice and outreach ministries. Thank you again for your support of the important ministry of Chicago, Eden, and United Seminaries.
With gratitude,
Kiely Todd Roska
Development Coordinator

FUNERALS

HELEN MARCELLA WEBBER

Born: June 17, 1916
Died: March 22, 2010
Date of Service: March 27, 2010
Memorial Service: Immanuel UCC in Ferguson MO

JACK L. LOTZ

Born: October 14, 1927
Died: December 18, 2009
Date of Service: April 10, 2010
Memorial Service: Immanuel UCC in Ferguson MO

WEDDINGS

Date: March 27, 2010
Groom: **Ryan Paul Ott** of St. Peters MO
Bride: **Amber Lynn Nagel** of St. Peters MO
Attendants: William Springer
Sara Knaggs

Date: April 24, 2010
Groom: **Steven Michael Griffin** of St. Peters MO
Bride: **Natalie Lucille Riley** of St. Peters MO
Attendants: Rich Alexander
Jamie Kelly
Leigha Riley

ROSEBUD ON THE ALTAR

CAROLINE ELSA POST

Born: March 13, 2010
Parents: Matt & Lindsey Post
Grandparents: Jim & Linda Reed
Mike & Barb Post
Great Grandparents: Wilma & the Late Charles Simner
Bill & Tudy Reed
John & Maxine Dykstra
Sibling: Amelia Jane Post

BAPTISMS

GARRETT CALEB FLETCHER

Date: April 25, 2010
Born: December 29, 2009
Parents: Jeffrey Aaron Fletcher
Erin Rachel Schuman
Grandparents: Frank & Elyse Schuman
Robert "Jay" & Maribeth Fletcher
Great Grandparents: Robert Fletcher
Donald Johnson
Glenn & Sue Schuman
Jay & Judi Hooker
Great Great Grandparents: John & Evelyn Hooker
Mary Eichholz
Godparents: Jacob Fletcher
Taylor Schuman

IMMANUEL UCC – MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFT FORM

IN MEMORY OF _____
IN HONOR OF _____
OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

- TO:**
- _____ Immanuel General Fund
 - _____ Evangelical Children's Home-OPERATING FUND
 - _____ Emmaus Homes-OPERATING FUND
 - _____ Emmaus Homes-RESIDENT TRUST FUND
 - _____ Emmaus Homes-ENDOWMENT FUND
 - _____ Emmaus Homes-AUXILIARY "FRIENDS OF EMMAUS" MARTHASVILLE
 - _____ Emmaus Homes PASTORAL CARE ENDOWMENT FUND
 - _____ Immanuel Building and Capital Improvement Fund
 - _____ Immanuel Reserve/Major Capital Improvement Fund
 - _____ Immanuel Endowment Fund
 - _____ Immanuel Teleministry Fund
 - _____ Immanuel Good Samaritan Fund
 - _____ Immanuel Brothers' In Christ Scholarship Fund
 - _____ Glenn Fox Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - _____ Brauch Scholarship Fund
 - _____ Music Enhancement Fund
 - _____ Eden Theological Seminary
 - _____ Camp Campaign "*Embody the Spirit, Embrace the Wonder*"
 - _____ United Church Neighborhood Houses
 - _____ Parish Nurse Fund
 - _____ Bell Choir Fund
 - _____ Organ Fund
 - _____ Heritage Fund
 - _____ Accessibility Fund
 - _____ Habitat for Humanity
 - _____ Discretionary Assistance Fund
 - _____ Other _____

ENV. # _____

FROM: _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

ACKNOWLEDGE: _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

For Office Use: **IN NEWSLETTER** _____ **DO NOT PUT IN NEWSLETTER:** _____