

The Spirit of Immanuel

November 2018



Now there are varieties of Gifts, but the same Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4

Immanuel Lutheran Church

- * Worship Services
Sundays, 10:00 am
- * Sunday School
9:00 am
for Pre-school
through High School
- * Weekly Fellowship
- * Choir and Chimes
- * Prayer Chain

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November - Our focus turns to Thanksgiving - giving thanks. Many people will sit around their well-dressed tables in a few short weeks and share what they are thankful for. The usual answers will likely include family, friends, good health, the church, a good harvest. All of those are very important and not to be taken for granted. But what if we didn't focus on **what** we are thankful for, but **how can we show** that we are thankful?

Have you ever taken the time to observe how people treat each other, especially when they are stressed, pressed for time, or going about their daily routine?

In the common store, you are greeted by an elderly person who may or may not seem overly excited to be there. The older lady at the check-out is having a hard time with this new-fangled technology and can't get the card reader to work right. People in line are getting annoyed.

Are those people working there because they enjoy standing on the hard concrete floor with aching feet and tired legs, or would they rather be playing cards with friends or home reading a good book?

Did you greet them with a smile and wait patiently, or did you walk quickly away, trying to avoid eye contact?

At your favorite watering hole or restaurant is a young mother trying to earn a little extra money for car repairs and her child's birthday next week. She obviously has a lot on her mind and, being extra busy, didn't get your drink refilled as quickly as you emptied your mug. Did you walk out without leaving a tip or scowl at her as you left the table? Did you acknowledge her when she refilled your drink the first time?

Your spouse has had a bad day, but you wouldn't know it, because you weren't around. All you know is that dinner isn't ready and the house is pretty much a mess.

Did you offer to help make dinner and clean up, or compliment the meal, even though it wasn't gourmet?

We are pretty good at saying thank you to our veterans, our teachers, friends, and those in the service capacity who we feel obligated to tip with "something a little extra" as the holidays approach. We are good at writing "Thank you" notes for the gifts we receive. We teach our children and prompt them to say "please" and "thank you" every chance we get.

(Have you ever seen someone's mood instantly change for the better when a 3-year-old spontaneously smiles his biggest grin and says a truly heart-felt thank-you for a scoop of ice cream with sprinkles, without being reminded to do so? Or says "excuse me" for bumping into an older person at the store?)

Some days we should take our lessons from 3-year-olds: say "thank you"; tell the greeters "good morning"; be patient with the cashiers and waiters dealing with impatient customers who won't look up or make eye contact because they are staring at their phones; tell someone that you are happy to see them; be nice.

As Thanksgiving approaches and we thank God for His many blessings, consider this - Maybe God would be more impressed if you **showed** him how thankful you were by being thankful to everyone around you. They are also his children and deserve to be acknowledged and appreciated, whatever their position in life.

-from the Secretary's Digest

Church Council Minutes

September 10, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Danny Harms, Angie Kratochvil, Terry Bose, Don Brucker, Kolton Brucker, Tracy Harms, Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom opened the meeting with prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Angie read the August 13th minutes. Tracy motioned to approve, and Don seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Danny presented, on behalf of Marcia, the August Balance and Profit and Loss reports as well as the January-August Profit and Loss report. It is possible that we will need to borrow money from another account if current giving is less than expenses. Terry motioned to approve, and Kolton seconded. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor presented his report. Don motioned to accept the report, and Terry seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor indicated that Michelle Krieger and Ashley, Paige, and Brock Jackman would like to join Immanuel's membership through transfer. Angie motioned to accept them into membership, and Tracy seconded. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Regarding Pastoral compensation for the 2019 calendar year, Kolton motioned and Terry seconded that Immanuel pay Pastor Tom a salary of \$28,654 including five weeks of vacation. Motion carried.
- We also discussed holding a congregational meeting in the fall for purposes of approving a budget for 2019 and then holding a separate annual meeting at our regular time (late January or early February) to approve year-end reports.
- We are still on the list for Windel Concrete to replace the front sidewalk. They have been delayed with other jobs because of rain.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jerry Kukuck has asked Robyn Jones to play the piano for the choir for a payment of \$25-\$30 per trip (Wednesday night rehearsals and Sunday morning performances). This would be roughly \$750-\$800 per year. Don motioned, and Terry seconded the above. Motion carried.

Angie motioned to adjourn, and Tracy seconded. Motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be Monday, October 8 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Kratochvil

Council Members

Dan Harms

Elton Mau

Don Brucker

Terry Bose

Dan Kukuck

Tracy Harms

Kolton Brucker

Marcia Buchs

Angie Kratochvil

Pastor Tom Krieger

Parish Education Committee

Yvonne Becker

Rebecca Casson

Louann Harms

Jeanie Weber

Youth Director

Briana Ray



The Pastor's Page



"And who is my neighbor?" is the last thing asked of Jesus before he shares the parable of the Good Samaritan. The one who asked Jesus then becomes able to answer his own question: a neighbor is the one who shows mercy. Jesus is our neighbor, and we are called to be neighbor to everyone Jesus is neighbor to.

Here's a little of the mercy our pastoral neighbors/partners are up to this month:

Sunday, November 4 is All Saints Sunday. Trinity receives an additional **WELCA Thankoffering** to support the ministries of and with women. Trinity also celebrates the **baptisms** of brothers Teighan and Myles! The Fairbury Food Drive is that afternoon.

A thanksgiving and blessing of/for the gifts Immanuel shares in the **Operation Shoebox** ministry will be a part of morning worship.

Tuesday, November 6 is Election Day, and Trinity will host a **community Soup Supper** from 4:30-7:00pm. From 4:00-5:00pm that same day, Fairview Haven residents will gather in the Activity Room for our monthly **Lutheran Communion**. Immanuel serves as a polling place on Election Day.

Thursday, November 8 the **Women of the ELCA** share in their monthly meeting at Trinity at 1:30pm.

Friday-Sunday, November 9-11 is the Central/Southern Illinois **Synod LYO** gathering at Carlinville. IWU Chaplain and ELCA Pastor Elyse Nelson Winger > will lead worship at both congregations on Sunday, November 11 while Pastor Tom is helping lead the synod youth gathering.



Councils meet at 7:00pm, Immanuel on Monday, November 5, and Trinity on Wednesday, November 14.

Congregations hold **Special Meetings** on Sunday, November 18 for the sole purpose of approving a budget for 2019; Trinity at 9:30am, and Immanuel at 11:00am.

The final confirmation class of the calendar year is that afternoon from 4:00-6:00pm at Trinity.

Wednesday, November 21 our **Thanksgiving** (Eve) **worship** will be at Immanuel at 7:00pm.



Trinity's **Bible Song** worship and faith formation about *The Fall* will be on Sundays November 18 + 25 (*The Flood* will be the first two Sundays of December). Thank you to the people of Trinity for risking this unknown, for building community, and for growing the body of Christ.

It is not too early to let people know that the annual **Remembrance Day service** (honoring and remembering loved ones who have died in the last year) will be at Duffy-Pils Memorial Home, Fairbury on Saturday, December 1 at 12:45pm.

Finally, we hold area ELCA neighbors in our prayer: the congregations at Forrest, Pontiac, and Flanagan without pastors, and Chenoa and Anchor who will be as of January 2019.

Community in Christ

LWR collection

What a great year Immanuel has had in supporting Lutheran World Relief and the making of quilts and kits.

In 2018 we made **90 quilts,**
21 school kits, **11 baby care kits,**
7 personal care kits, **11 fabric kits,**
and collected **25 lbs. of bar soap.**

AWESOME!!

We also collected \$125.00 free will offering from you to help with shipping all these items.

WOW! So generous!

The boxes were delivered to St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomington on Saturday, October 27th for shipping to warehouses for international distribution.

Thanks so much to all who helped in any way this year with our LWR projects. We also thank Thrivent for the gift card Karen received to purchase need items to finish kits!

A Calendar for 2019 collection of kits and bars of soap will be posted in the January Newsletter.
Can we top the FANTASTIC job we did in 2018?
WE KNOW IMMANUEL CAN!!!

Thanks again Immanuel – great job. God bless you all for you caring and loving attitude.

Karen, Dee, and Suzie



The Sunday School children and helpers will be filling the Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child on Sunday, November 4th beginning at 9:00 am. Thank You for all of the contributions this year!



TeamWork !

The girls pulled together and gathered boxes and boxes full of sweet potatoes at the home of Gary and Marcia Buchs.



Most of the potatoes will be donated to local food pantries - sharing our abundance.



November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday - 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service		 OVERFLOWING WITH <i>Thankfulness</i>		1	2  Dagan & Sabra Brucker	3  Bill & Clare Malott
4 All Saints Sunday  Jeremy & Briana Ray Sherri Ganske Eli Petersen	5 7:00 pm Council Meeting Lois Barker Clara Ummel	6 Kim Weber	7 Choir @ 7:00	8 Kasen Casson John Gleeson	9	10
11  Brad & Teresa Poppe	12 Reed Weber	13 Wayne Petersen	14 Choir @ 7:00 Dennis Harris	15 Parker Harms	16	17 Sandy Jenkins
18 Congregation Budget Meeting 11:00 am	19 Rylee Kukuck Kimberly Petersen	20 Marilyn Kellar Wylie Ummel	21 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	22 Thanksgiving Day Isabelle Pierce	23 Luke Buchs	24 Don Brucker Jacquelyn Burns
25 Christ the King Sunday  Jeff & Megan Harris Yvonne Becker Dana Bose	26 Lucas Garthaus	27	28 Choir @ 7:00	29	30	

Worship Assistants

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Ushers / Acolytes</u>
Nov. 4	Renette Althouse	Don & Kim Brucker	Alan & Sabrina Petersen	Shannon, Alison Roark
Nov. 11	Yvonne Becker	Lois Barker, Harlan Brucker		Craig Becker, Parker H.
Nov. 18	Harlan Brucker	Kent & Rebecca Casson	Norman & Karen Harms	Alex & Annalyn Harper
Nov. 21	Marcia Buchs	Kristin Cavinder family	John & Cindy Harris	Phil & Angie Kratochvil
Nov. 25	Rebecca Casson	Dana & Sue Coldren		Jerry & Suzie Kukuck
Dec. 2	Sue Coldren	Sheri Ganske, Sharon Hardesty	Denny & Amy W.	Kourtney & Kolton B.
Dec. 9	Leslie Garthaus	Mike & Leslie Garthaus		Ainsley & Ashlyn K.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Newsletter information or member phone & address changes may be sent to Cindy Wilson at ckwilson1983@gmail.com

Puzzle[e]

Use the music code to find the words
 for this familiar song of thanks.

CODE:

A	E	I	O	U
B	F	L	P	V
C	G	M	R	W
D	H	N	S	X
	J		T	Y
				Z

Challenge: What do we commonly call this song?

The

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him
 all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly
 host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.; The
 Doxology