

Immanuel United Church of Christ

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 2022 Newsletter

Pulpit Supply Pastor Bill Whitford

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IUCC Newsletter – March, 2022

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus the living Christ. I have seen many of you in the last few weeks on Sunday mornings, and it is a wonderful privilege to serve this church.

I have also enjoyed our time in Bible Study prior to worship each Sunday. Please join us at 9:00 am Bible Study and/or 10:00 am Sunday worship, all are welcome!

Lent is a hard road that leads to the joy of Easter. I hope this spring, after all the struggles we have been through in the last two and a half years, that you are finding your way out of the darkness, much like the darkness of Lent. Easter is coming and each Christian can lean forward in anticipation of the miracle of Jesus' resurrection on a bright Easter morning. We look forward to it – to the empty tomb and the triumph over death.

I encourage you to take time during Lent (and afterward) to pray and read the Bible. Then take a few moments to pray on what you read. We can do this alone or in groups, but making it a daily habit is worthwhile. Our daily times of prayer and meditation bring us closer to God.

Like all of you, I am also looking forward to spring, to the flowers, and to the land of Wisconsin turning green again. God's blessings upon all of you!

Bill Whitford
Pulpit Supply Pastor



CHURCH COUNCIL

The March Church Council Meeting was held on March 16 2022. Members Present: Roy Berrey, JoAnn Geissbuhler, Fritz Hirsbrunner, Sheila Siegler, Jean Stauffacher, Randy Ubersox, Kerry Black, Dave Sutherland, Brandi Ruf-

Wepking. Absent: Nancy Slama.

Repair and review agenda: Add Contract for Humpy Dumpty.
The February minutes and financial report were approved as presented.

Reports:

President Report

Deb Loken asked if guild could restart Fellowship again after Church services starting April 7th. The Council approved the Women's Guild starting fellowship after worship. Greeters and Ushers will not be officially restarted yet as we are not sure who is comfortable coming back to in-person worship. Those who are in church will be asked to help on that day.

Abigail Reuter has applied for a scholarship as a high school senior. This was forwarded to the Endowment fund. She is also asking for help with her Africa mission trip. This will go to the Women's Guild and Mission committee. Conference Flyer shared with Zoom sessions for spiritual growth. JoAnn will put info in the newsletter in case anyone would be interested in attending.

Christian Education Report - Brandi Ruf-Wepking shared that on Palm Sunday, kids will be providing a program. Also having kids provide the Mother's Day service. Council discussed opening Sunday school next fall and getting feedback from parents. Sheila Siegler has agreed to help Brandi with Sunday school teaching and coordination.

Building and Grounds Report - Fritz will take care of railroad tie work in parking lot. Sheila S. said she and husband will help. Bushes by rectory garage need to come out. Area between parsonage and church contains rock and this needs to be cleaned up and replaced. Randy Ubersox will contact Randy Loken and advise to begin work and contact those who are willing to help with work.

EF&G Report - Easter cards to go out to older members over 80 yrs. old. Women's Day service is March 27th. The service will be provided by the women of our congregation.

Worship Committee - Suggestions were presented for Worship Committee. Roy Berrey will discuss with Pastor Bill.

Women's Guild – Cookies needed for freezer for Sunday fellowships.

Search Committee – Interview new pastor candidate via Zoom on March 22.

Old Business:

Investments – Congregation approved during the Annual meeting to invest monies for a better rate of return. Fritz Hirsbrunner reviewed the equity and fixed funds through UCC. He felt these Investments are fiscally responsible. Rates of return were discussed in this fund. The Council approved investing our funds in the UCC Foundation Fund.

Flag in church – The Council discussed having a flag in church. The Council approved to allow an American flag to be posted in the fellowship hall.

Pastoral care – This is not part of Bill's contract. EF&G with Janice Ruf will continue to be the liaison and we will continue to post in the monthly newsletter. Some folks are indicating they don't know who to contact for this service. Roy Berrey will let Bill know to make this a weekly reminder before service begins to contact Janice Ruf for this service.

Funerals/Weddings/Baptism - These will be paid as extra expense as Bill is only Pulpit Supply when he is needed in these capacities. The funeral home can help facilitate if Bill is not available to help find another pastor. There was discussion on a Substitute Pastor Policy on when a request is made for using an outside pastor. This policy allows the contracted serving pastor to have the decision on using an outside pastor. The Council approved to accept the Substitute Pastor policy as given.

Bill will be invited to our Council meetings via zoom and paid at the rate of \$25 per hour.

New Business:

Humpty Dumpty contract review - Add future contract review to agenda for January 2023. The Council approved renewing the Humpty Dumpty contract without changes. Fritz Hirsbrunner will send out contract for renewal to Humpty Dumpty with no changes.

The next Council meeting will be April 20th at 6:15 p.m.



FEBRUARY 2022 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

| | February 2022 | Budget | Year to Date 2022 | Year to Date Budget |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Contributions/Revenue | \$ 8,063 | \$ 4,253 | \$ 13,527 | \$ 9,655 |
| Expenses | <u>\$ 8,721</u> | <u>\$ 9,359</u> | <u>\$ 17,514</u> | <u>\$17,849</u> |
| Net Excess/(Deficit) | \$ (658) | \$(5,106) | \$ (3,987) | \$ (8,194) |



SUBSTITUTE PASTOR POLICY

Approved at Council Meeting on March 16, 2022

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to set forth the procedure to follow if an Immanuel United Church of Christ (IUCC) member or non-member wishes to use IUCC for a certain service and wishes to have a pastor (or other individual) who is not the pastor of IUCC officiate the service. This policy is set forth to provide professional courtesy for the pastor of IUCC and to provide theological consistency for IUCC members.

Scope: This policy applies to any IUCC member or non-member who wishes to use the church for a service such as, but not limited to, a funeral, wedding, or baptism, and wishes to have a pastor (or other individual) other than the IUCC pastor officiate the service. The IUCC pastor is defined as the current pastor under contract at the time of the service and is either a settled pastor, interim pastor or pulpit supply pastor.

Procedure: Any IUCC member or non-member who wishes to have a pastor (or other individual) other than the IUCC pastor officiate any of the services listed above has the responsibility to contact the IUCC pastor requesting permission to do so. The individual(s) making the request should provide rationale for the request. The IUCC pastor has full authority to accept or deny the request. The IUCC pastor will co-officiate the service and has the full authority to coordinate and approve the details of co-officiating the service.

If there is a request to use the organ or piano by anyone other than the designated IUCC pianist/organist, the request must be approved by the IUCC pianist/organist.



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday School kids will be providing a program during the worship service on April 10, 2022.



EASTER SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENT

Easter Sunday service is April 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.



WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild meeting was held on March 10, 2022. A business meeting was held and the following topics were discussed:

1. The April meeting has been changed to Thursday, April 21st.
2. Options for programs at the Guild meetings.
3. Will be working on making a Women's Guild booklet.
4. Over 80 party has been changed from May to August. More details later.
5. No old business.

The next Guild meeting will be held Thursday, April 21st.



PASTORAL CARE

If you know of any church member that would appreciate a pastoral visit, please let Janice Ruf know and she will follow up with the contact. You can contact Janice at 608-553-4182.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr. 10 – Palm Sunday service with Sunday School kids providing a program

Apr. 15 – Good Friday

Apr. 17 – Easter Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.

Apr. 20 – Church Council meeting at 6:15 p.m.

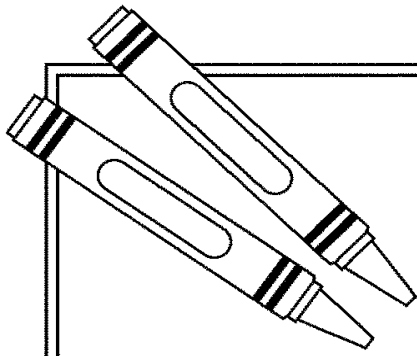
Apr. 25 – Deadline for May newsletter articles

May your heart be full
of gratitude for the
sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
Hope it brings the
greatest feelings of
recovery and joy.

HAPPY
Easter

CuteLoveQuotesForHer.Org





Just for KIDS

There are many special things that we think of in the spring.
In the spaces, write a word to fit each definition. The arrows show that the letters are the same.
Unscramble the letters in the circles to find a very important part of spring.

1. a caterpillar becomes one

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2. a baby bird is born in an

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3. they grow from seeds

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4. the beginning of morning

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5. a small furry animal with long ears

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6. Jesus died on this

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2nd Kate Black
3rd Peggy Rolli
4th Natalie
Jenson

9th Diane Huntington
Steve Siegler
10th Jackie Ruf
12th Mariah Kendall
14th Vicki Ward
21st Wesley Buss
Madisyn Ruf-Heim
Barbara Douglas
Maxwell Martin
23rd Helen Parr
25th Clinton Anderson
Nancy Ruf
27th Amy Prine



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

2nd Roy & Sheila Berrey
20th Diane & Roch Ritchie
25th Ron & Jeannie Ubersox



APRIL LITURGISTS

3rd Jordan Hinderman
10th Brandi Ruf-Wepking
17th Judy Huntington
24th Roy Berrey



Deadline for the
May newsletter
articles is **April 25,**
2022.