

Immanuel United Church of Christ

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 2024 Newsletter

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April 2024

This Cup Filled With The Wine Of My Wrath

In the remaining minutes, just before our Lord was arrested, His soul was so traumatized that an Angel from heaven came to comfort and strengthen Him. As Luke describes it, “***And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.***” – Luke 22:44.

I do not doubt any of that. There is no way to say how I, or any of us, would react to knowing that we were moments away from betrayal, arrest, torture, and death by Roman Crucifixion. How can such cruelty and inhuman violence be reasoned in any rational mind?

But what I did not understand until just recently, was why Jesus prayed that “this cup” be taken from Him. “***Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.***” – Luke 22:42. I had always assumed that it was something like when we say, “*a person’s plate is full*” when they have a lot to deal with. Now, I no longer think this is the case because of Ray Vander Laan’s Lenten Bible study, “*The Path To The Cross*”. In it he describes the “*cup of wrath*” of God from Jeremiah 25. “***This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: Take from my hand this cup filled with the wine of my wrath and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it.***” - Jeremiah 25:15

This caused me to think that, perhaps the Son of God was referring to this very cup, God’s cup of wrath. And how Jesus just might have been dreading this more than the ordeal of the cross. If that is even possible.

I mean, when you think about it, the Unblemished Lamb of God was about to experience for the first time, at the end of His human life, His Heavenly Father’s full wrath of judgment. And all because of our sins. I believe this may also tie in with Christ crying out from the cross, “***Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?***”—which means, “***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***” – Matthew 27:46. Sin cannot stand before the Righteous God, Jehovah.

Our innocent Messiah, who knew no kind of sin or unfaithfulness to God was about to be given the full measure of punishment for sins of the world in which He had no part or ever committed. Every sin that ever was, or will ever be, was thrust on Him as a blood sacrifice for our sakes and for our salvation. We don’t deserve any of this divine sparing of the punishment we deserve, but Christ freely took it all on for us. “***No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.***” – John 10:18

I believe Jesus may have been referring to what He was about to suffer by the cup of wrath from Jeremiah 25 more than anything else. As the Christian preacher and evangelist, Johnathan Edwards put it, Jesus became the “*sinner in the hands of an Angry God*”. Our Savior did it all because of His mighty and powerful love. I pray we can all remember what Jesus did for us as we walk with Him to the cross. Amen.

Pastor Bob Wilkins



CHURCH COUNCIL

The March Church Council Meeting was held on March 20, 2024. Members Present: Roy Berrey, Jordan Hinderman, Fritz Hirsbrunner, Sheila Siegler, Connie Ubersox, Kerry Black, Dave Sutherland, Pastor Bob Wilkins, and Pam Hardt.

Absent: Nancy Slama.

The February minutes and financial report were approved as presented.

Reports:

Pastor Report – was submitted and discussed.

President Report – Darlington's 175th Anniversary Celebration Donation has been received, Council approved donating \$100; Coffee Maker donated by AA folks who use the building. Homemaker and Community Education would like to use our fellowship hall on April 4th in the afternoon.

Building and Grounds Committee – fellowship hall siding project will begin shortly along with new back door.

Mission Team - Identify local mission needs; Cinnamon Rolls April 26th.

EF & G Committee – Faster notification of Baptisms and baptism banner, Roy Berrey and Pastor Bob will work together on this.

Endowment Committee - Meeting this week on the 26th.

Woman's Guild – Forensics were here last meeting, next meeting April 10th.

Worship Committee – Maundy Thursday service and Easter.

Old Business:

1. Humpty Dumpty Equipment – still ongoing.
2. Special Meeting to change by-laws for endowment; Roy Berrey will attend.
3. Fund raising brain storming with Stewardship Committee

New Business – none

The next Council meeting will be April 8th at 6:15 p.m. Meeting time will now change to the second Wednesday of the month.



CINNAMON ROLLS/BRAT STAND

The Mission Team Cinnamon Roll/Brat Stand will be Friday, April 26th in the Piggly Wiggly parking lot. Don't miss out. Come on down, pick up a cinnamon roll for breakfast, and a brat for lunch.



THANK YOU

I would like to thank Randy Loken for helping me with delivering Meals on Wheels in February.

Diane Ritchie



FEBRUARY 2024 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	February 2024	Budget	Year to Date 2024	Year to Date Budget
Contributions/Other Revenue	\$7,390	\$ 7,053	\$15,279	\$15,062
Expenses	<u>\$7,337</u>	<u>\$10,139</u>	<u>\$18,026</u>	<u>\$19,391</u>
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$ 53	\$ (3,086)	\$ (2,747)	\$ (4,329)



BINGO

IUCC hosted Bingo at the Manor in February. It's always a fun time for all. Thank you to Betsy Ellefson, Connie Ubersox and Carol Glendenning for helping. I think we all had a good time. We will host again in May.

*Thank you,
Kate Black*



EASTER SERVICE

Easter Sunday service is March 31, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.



WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

The Women's Guild met on March 13, 2024. The Guild would like to thank the Darlington High School Forensics Team for their performances. The Guild will purchase four

Easter Lilies and voted to have the Fellowship Hall carpet cleaned in the high traffic areas.

The next Women's Guild meeting will be Wednesday, April 10th at noon. Lunch will be provided. There will be no program.

Mary Geissbuhler
Women's Guild Secretary



PASTORAL CARE

If you know of any church member that would appreciate a pastoral visit, please let Pastor Bob Wilkins know and he will follow up with the contact. You can contact Pastor Wilkins at 812-691-0907, or at 608-776-4110.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr. 3 – Evening Prayer/Bible Study group at 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 7 – Sunday School kids singing during worship

Apr. 10 – Women's Guild Meeting at noon

Church Council Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Evening Prayer/Bible Study group at 7:00 p.m.

April 17 - Evening Prayer/Bible Study group at 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 22 – Deadline for May newsletter articles

Apr. 24 – Evening Prayer/Bible Study group at 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 26 – Mission Team Cinnamon Roll/Brat Stand at Piggly Wiggly

May 1 – Evening Prayer/Bible Study group at 7:00 p.m.

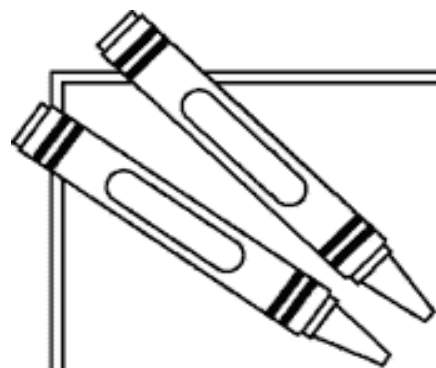


Jeremiah 25:15–18 speaks to the Lord's Cup of Wrath

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

BECAUSE	CURSING	DRINK
FILLED	HAND	HORROR
ISRAEL	JERUSALEM	JUDAH
KINGS	LORD	MADE
MAKE	NATIONS	OBJECT
OFFICIALS	RUIN	SAID
SCORN	SEND	SENT
STAGGER	SWORD	TAKE
TODAY	TOOK	TOWNS
WHEN	WINE	WRATH










This is what the **LORD**, the God of **Israel**, **said** to me: “**Take** from my **hand** this cup **filled** with the **wine** of my **wrath** and **make** all the **nations** to whom I **send** you **drink** it. **When** they **drink** it, they will **stagger** and go mad **because** of the **sword** I will **send** among them.” So I **took** the cup from the **LORD’s hand** and **made** all the **nations** to whom he **sent** me **drink** it: **Jerusalem** and the **towns** of **Judah**, its **kings** and **officials**, to **make** them a **ruin** and an **object** of **horror** and **scorn** and **cursing**, as they are **today**; (Created with LOGOS® Bible Software.)



Just for KIDS

An Easter Message

Mary went to the tomb and found it empty! Find the words that an angel spoke to her. Write the name of each picture on the lines. Transfer the letters to the other spaces to find the verse.

		31	32	33	34								
1	2	3	4	5									
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		35	36	37
	15	16	17	18	19	20		38	39	40	41		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
	28	29	30					42	43	44			

" 18 42 14 31 3 14 17 7 13 3 17 34 15 17 20

8 42 10 16 25 38 25 23 30 36 35 3 23 29

44 42 19 31 27 43 31 ? 42 19 25 4 23 3 9

42 10 24 19 ; 42 28 42 36 5 24 25 5 27 23 !"

Luke 24:5



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2 nd	Kate Black
3 rd	Peggy Rolli
4 th	Natalie Jenson
9 th	Diane Huntington Steve Siegler
10 th	Jackie Ruf
12 th	Mariah Kendall
14 th	Vicki Ward
21 st	Wesley Buss Madisyn Heim Barbara Douglas Maxwell Martin
23 rd	Helen Parr
25 th	Clinton Anderson Nancy Ruf
27 th	Amy Prine



Deadline for the
May newsletter
articles is **April
22, 2024.**



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

20 th	Diane & Roch Ritchie
25 th	Ron & Jeannie Ubersox



APRIL LITURGISTS

7 th	Jared Reuter Family
14 th	Marcus Kendall
21 st	Donna Wilkins
28 th	Dante Glendenning
May 5	– Janice Ruf