

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Greetings to the Saints in Camillus!

This is the July/August edition of our church newsletter and that means we are officially into the "Dog Days" of summer! The "Dog Days" are identified as the period between July 22 and August 22. This is thought to be the hottest and most sultry days of summer and is actually based on the Greek calendar and when the star "Sirius" appeared to "rise" just before the sun. Now... all of that is a long drawn out way of saying... it's time for some summer weather!

It is also time for some rest and relaxation! Summer vacations have been changed this year by the situation of our world but regardless, summer offers each of us the time to be more intentional about pausing and refreshing the lives we are leading. You know, you need those times to slow down, collect your thoughts and purposefully re-charge your batteries! And boy, do many people need it this year

As you refresh this year... as you slow down and re-charge, I would ask you to think about staying in a steady relationship with God. Don't forget your faith and your church as you slow down or even as you travel. You can continue to worship each week via our website. And... you can worship anytime during the week... not just on Sunday mornings! Our worship service will be updated each Saturday night and you can watch anytime during your week!

And as you are refreshing think about these 5 things....

God hears MY prayers.
I am not ALONE.
MY voice is valuable.
I have a POWERFUL destiny.
Nothing is IMPOSSIBLE with God.

You might even use these statements as a part of your daily prayer mantra. And by doing this you'll change the way your whole day goes!

See you in worship this summer!

Pastor Jack Keating



INSIDE...

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Hello everyone!

The Immanuel Staff has recently gone around and passed out some fun treats to keep all the kids busy throughout the summer, with some coloring and activity books, as well as some ice cream very generously donated by Lisa Miller! It was so wonderful to get to speak to and see all the kids faces again, we have been missing them!

Every year we give our second graders their very own bible, and this year was no different! While we could not be in person and hand them out in front of the whole congregation, we went out and delivered them and blessed them right on their doorstep with the activity books and ice cream. Ice cream with the bible might end up being a tradition we have to keep up with!

We are all eager to get back to regular worship, and we as a team will be spending the summer coming up with ways to get back to regularly scheduled Kidz Club learning, while staying safe and healthy. In the meantime, you can find all of our Kidz Club videos up on the church website for you all to watch on your own time.

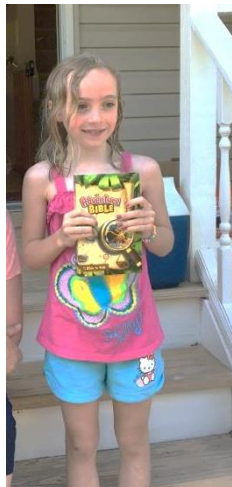
Have a safe summer!
Blessings,
Ashley Davis
Kidz Club Coordinator



Second graders receive Bibles



Congratulations Katherine!



Congratulations Carly!

Thank you so much for doing the senior parade for our graduation. Thank you very much for the Gordon Williams scholarship. That was a great surprise. See you soon. Alexa



Connect with us!

In person, outside worship is now available in our parking lot on Sunday mornings at 9am. Bring your own chair and wear your mask for an outside worship experience. We will offer this through Labor Day. If it is raining, we will not have outside worship.

Recorded weekly worship is available online at our website www.churchofthebells.org. There is a tab called "Online worship" at the top of the page that will take you to the current week and past weeks worship services. Our children's message will be part of the worship service for the summer.

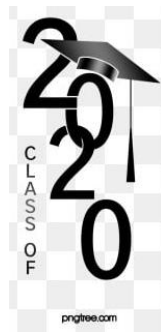
Monday, Wednesday and Friday Pastor Jack is emailing an encouraging message. If you would like to receive these and other church updates, please email the church at churchofthebells@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

On Monday mornings, we are having a virtual zoom coffee chat with the Pastors at 10am. If you would like to join, please email Pastor Jack at pastorjackk@gmail.com to be added to the zoom invitation.

On Wednesday afternoons at 2pm we are gathering via zoom for a midweek Worship and Praise service. We have a short devotion, some singing and a time for prayer. If you can't join but have prayer concerns, please send those to Pastor Jack and we will include them. To join in, email Pastor Jack at pastorjackk@gmail.com and he will send you an invitation.

Pastors Jack and Pam are available by phone or email. If you leave a message on our church answering machine, one of us will give you a call back. We are available by email at the addresses above.

Gordon Williams Scholarship Recipients
Congratulations to this year's award winners!



Tyriq



Alexa





April 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$2106.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	\$(458.46)

May 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$1,736.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	\$(828.46)

On June 11th, the Graduation Celebration Caravan embarked from Immanuel and traveled to celebrate four of our five high school graduates. We decorated our cars with paint, balloons and signs and loudly honked our horns signifying our arrival at each home. We stopped to celebrate with Erica , Alexa, Tyriq and Chris. Each graduate was given a Wegmans bag full of cards, gifts and treats. I hope the seniors enjoyed our visits as much as we enjoyed visiting them. I was also able to visit our fifth senior, Riley a week later to shower her with gifts as well.

I would like to thank the congregation for their support of this mission as well as their generosity. You certainly put smiles on our graduates faces. I would also like to thank Pastor Jack, Pastor Pam, Betty Block, Shelley Dawson Smith and Joan Archambeau who made up the Graduation Celebration Caravan. Congratulations Class of 2020! I know that God has God’s hand on you all.

Carol A. Doucette
Mission Team Captain



At the June Trustees meeting, the Trustees voted to send \$2,500 to Casowasco to support the ministry there. This is the amount we typically send in camperships and we are aware that Casowasco cannot have summer camp this year, yet their expenses continue. We received the following thank you note:

“Thank you so much for Immanuel’s donation to Casowasco Camp and Retreat Center in the amount of \$2,500. I cannot tell you the excitement that was shared around the room when the letter was opened.

We are grateful for the generous support you and members of Immanuel UMC provide to Casowasco, but also, to the summer campers that you send each summer. You are helping so many summer campers have a quality, transforming experience with Christ.

I hope you will share with your members that all the Camp and Retreat Ministry sites have new websites. This will be the best way to see all the new things Casowasco is offering to stay connected with camper families and churches. I hope you will find something listed for you to take part in.

www.campsandretreats.org

Again, thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. It means a great deal.

We appreciate you!

Grace and Peace,

Anne Horton, Interim Director



July/Aug. 2020

There were not sufficient funds collected to make distributions to either Missions or Trustees nor make the entire mortgage payment. The shortage for the mortgage payment will be temporarily advanced from mission team funds. There was also a shortage in March; the total 3 month shortage is \$2,605.38. Any questions please call Shelley Dawson Smith @ 315- 487-1290.



Mission Grant

Dear Shelley,

Thank you for submitting an application to the United Methodist Frontier Foundation for the 2020 Rev. Dr. Keith Muhleman Ministry Grant on behalf of Immanuel United Methodist Church.

Congratulations! Your Local Home Repair ministry has been selected to receive \$1,000.

In the past, we have presented the award during a Sunday morning worship service which gives us an opportunity to get to know your church community and the project we are supporting. During these uncertain times, we will be mailing the check to you and hope to visit when it is safe.

Early next year, we will contact you for an update/evaluation report that we will share with our board members at our Spring 2021 meeting.

Best wishes for a successful program.

Warm regards,

Ellen Knudsen

President & Executive Director



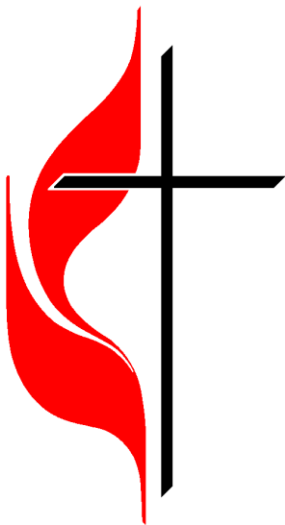
*Footnote: The Foundation helps churches fund ministry by providing financial tools, stewardship strategies and investment management services. They serve all churches throughout the New York and Upper New York Conferences. They provide financial acumen from a distinctly United Methodist perspective, such as investment products screened to be socially responsible, as defined by The Book of Discipline, stewardship services that have a basis in scripture, and personal attention to setting distributions and meeting capital needs. Shelley was a member of this board for over 30 years. **page 3***

Electronic Service Requested
Our Mission
"To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world."



July / August 2020

We wish to be good stewards of both financial and environmental resources. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email us at churchofthebells@gmail.com and request removal.



Pastor	Pastor Jack Keating
Phone	(315) 487-1171
Email	churchofthebells@gmail.com
Website	www.churchofthebells.org
Worship	online
Kidz Club	via email and website
Office Hours	via email or phone
Handicapped accessible	

Please join us!