

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



Greetings to the Saints at Camillus,

A friend of mine tells this story about himself. One day, in full bloom of his youth, he visited Paul Tournier at the latter's home near Geneva, Switzerland.

My friend was full of vibrant enthusiasm about his Christian faith (as I sometimes tend to be). He has been traveling through Europe with two young college friends who were not yet Christians and had been witnessing to them at every turn. He told Dr. Tournier of this, and Tournier, with all his wisdom and very much in character, replied: "Perhaps it would be better if you talked to them less and loved them more."

Sometimes it seems like all we do is "talk". But Jesus calls us to "love them more". That really is, you know, the best way to pass on Christianity, one to another – and perhaps the only way.

This story makes me stop to think about the many ways the people of Immanuel show that we "love them more". We do this when we build a ramp, fill a food bag, or deliver a shut-in meal. We do this when we help to build a bed for a kid, offer a Bible study, or bake a dozen cookies. We do this when we sing Christmas carols at a nursing home, set up tables and chairs, or when we teach a Sunday School lesson.

When you think about it, Immanuel shows how much we love others almost every day! How are you a part of loving others for Jesus? Let's share some more on how each of us serves!

Looking forward
to seeing you in worship,
Pastor Jack Keating



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INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR CHURCH STAFF???

THIS AND THAT FROM PASTOR JACK

Our fun-loving and energetic church staff has 2 positions we are ready to fill!

We are in need of a **Kidz Club Coordinator**. Kidz Club is Immanuel's Sunday morning education program. We are also looking for a **Faith Formation Coordinator**. This position involves developing and overseeing our educational and faith-building programs with all of our young people. This staff position will have a chance to develop the job description as we look to new and innovative ways to help young people grow in their relationship with God. Our church staff is dedicated to enabling all members of Immanuel to live into the call God places on each of our lives. If you'd like to join us in that work please apply today! Click this link [job information](#) for more details and to apply.

Chair Yoga Class



Tuesdays 9:30 -10:30 in the nursery
Starting September 12.

Join us for an hour of gentle exercises to increase flexibility and strength. Bring weights for additional bone strengthening exercises. Nutritional tips will also be offered each week, as we examine the benefits of one of the 100 healthiest foods on earth.

Cost? No charge, but as always any free will donation to the church is welcome.

To sign up, please contact Barb Merckel (315) 256-7501 or bmerckel@live.com



Dear Immanuel UMC family,
I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of Immanuel again and to help out when needed these past several weeks. Even though I was with you for a sad reason, it was a pleasure to worship with you, to spend time with old friends, to meet new friends, and to support one another through this time. Thank you for your warm welcome. Thank you for the gift certificate, which was a lovely surprise. We will enjoy using it. Most of all, thank God for all of you, and for the blessings we shared in our time together.

Grace and peace,
Candace

1. We resume our Fall Schedule on Sunday, September 10th! Look for two worship services... 8:30am and 10:00am starting that day!

2. September 10th is also the kickoff for our new "2nd Sunday Lunch" program. Each second Sunday we will gather for lunch following worship. On September 10th we will enjoy a wonderful meal of Barb's world-famous Macaroni and Cheese. No need to bring anything for this event except yourself! PLEASE make sure to sign up so that we plan for enough food and a free will donation will gladly be accepted to help us cover expenses. In October we'll offer our popular Chili/Chowder/Soup Cookoff! Start trying out those new recipes NOW!

3. World Communion Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 1st. Mark your calendars for this special Sunday of worship.

4. Have you ever thought about joining the choir? We're always looking for new members to help us praise the Lord through the gift of music! See Dan if you are interested.

5. Notice all the mission opportunities in our Narthex? We've got a used shoe recycling box, a donation box for used eyeglasses for the Lion's Club, and a plastic bin for food pantry donations among others. How many of these mission opportunities are you participating in?

6. Under Chef Sam's direction our Shut-in Meal Delivery ministry is going great. We are well over 500 meals served to our shut-ins and we are so blessed by Sam, Marilyn and the crew of drivers who make these important deliveries. Thanks!

7. How is your Faithful Friend relationship going? Let the church office know if you see a need in which we can help!

8. Would you like to help prepare the communion elements on the first Sunday of the month? Please see Pastor Jack!





**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

Sleep In Heavenly Peace

On September 9th at 9:00 (that's 9-9-9) the parking lot of Immanuel will be transformed into a work site to build 30 beds for children in our community who do not have their own bed. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex if you or someone you know would like to help. We plan on being done about 12:30 and will be treated to lunch by Chef Sam. Water and Gatorade will be provided throughout the morning. Children are welcome but there must be one-on-one supervision by an adult. There will be jobs for everyone and even a few jobs for people who need to sit. If you aren't able to work the entire time or you just want to come and provide support that's ok. You can also provide support by purchasing twin size sheets or comforter or pillows or make a monetary donation.

We hope the weather will cooperate, but we will have tents.

Hope to see you at 9 on 9/9!

Any questions ask Shelley Dawson Smith



Stay tuned for information that will be coming about CROP Walk in October.



Our Annual Fall Craft Show

Friday, October 27 4-8pm

Saturday, October 28, 9am-3pm

Tell all your friends and family to come by for some wonderful handmade items. This is a crafters only event.

**** Crafter's & Shopper's donating a Non – Perishable or MONETARY DONATION to the Food Pantry, will have the opportunity to have their name chosen for one of our "Crafters Gifts" ****

For more information, contact Betty Block at bblock@wwdb.org or 315-491-8256.

MAINTENANCE DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Summer is winding down, the weather will be getting cooler and that means fall will be here before we know it, so it's time once again for our Fall Church Maintenance Day. This year it will be on Saturday September 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (September 23 is the planned rain date.)

We have many projects planned including landscaping, painting, organizing, general cleaning and various maintenance jobs. We need lots of helpers – many hands make for light work. You don't need any special skills and a majority of the chores are suitable for all ages and talents – even the kids can help! All materials and tools will be supplied, we just need some ambitious workers. We're really anxious to get our to-do list done, so sign up – it'll be a fun and rewarding day!

A Fall Church Maintenance Day sign-up list will be available in the church narthex for those who are able to sign up after church service. If you can't sign up directly, or have any questions or suggestions for a maintenance project, please send an email to either Lois Sadowski at lsadowski@twcny.rr.com or call 315-488-6230 or Laurine Campbell at tlacampb@aol.com or call 315-546-5554.



14th Annual Mini Golf Tournament

August 5th was a perfect sunny day for the 14th annual Miniature Golf Tournament to support Disaster Recovery Mission. We were blessed to have 19 hole sponsors with signs spread throughout the course recognizing their support. And what would a successful tournament be without golfers? There were 49 people including 12 children playing mini golf at beautiful Fairmount Glen. And what would a Methodist event be without food? Thanks to Sam Paventi and his helpers for the delicious brunch.

A special thanks is extended to Tom Ness, owner of Fairmount Glen Miniature Golf for donating the course for this event and also to several church members who made cash donations.

There were a lot of smiles as everyone had a great time. Thank you to everyone involved for your support and because of all of you \$2,175.35 was raised! Check out the [pictures](#) on our website!

Shelley Dawson Smith
Mini Golf Chairperson
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A Word of Thanks...

Hello Friends! This is just a short note to thank you all, once again, for all the prayers and support of your pastor and family as we went through Becky's fight with cancer! You have supported us in so many ways from cards, prayers, gifts, meals, flowers and telephone calls. We have been blessed to be a part of the family of Immanuel throughout this journey. I now look forward to resuming the role of Pastor here and the ministry we will do together in the days ahead. We give thanks to God for you all! Pastor Jack and family.



Dear Immanuel Family!

I send you my deepest appreciation for all the cards, calls, emails, text messages – AND PRAYERS! – you shared with me, and for me, during my challenging days of treatment at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center for stage 3 ovarian cancer over the past months since December 2022. I am so very blessed to be able to report that I have been found to be CANCER FREE as of June 20! Many of you already know this because you are so often in contact with me, and I was so thrilled to be able to be in church for the July 23rd service and was able to share my news in person!

I want to thank Pastor Jack for including me on the weekly prayer list, which meant so much to me every Sunday while I participated via Facebook. Thank you to Immanuel for providing the Facebook livestreamed services... what a lifeline that is!

I can't remember a time in my life when Immanuel wasn't a foundation of my life. I have always been blessed to have an Immanuel "family", many of whom were friends of my Mom and Dad and watched my brother, Bill, and I grow up. But I have never felt the Immanuel Family more than through this challenging time. Thank you for blessing me with your love and prayers!

God's Blessing be with you All,
Julie Newell

News of Brown Bag Free Lunch.....

Several Weeks ago, Shelly Dawson Smith announced during worship that the Missions Team had made significant donations to three local non-profits, one of them being "Brown Bag Free Lunch" sponsored by Camillus First UMC. In 2010, a suggestion was made and approved by the Administrative Council to move forward with this project.

Fast forward thirteen years and a large group of working volunteers, community donors as well as churches such as Immanuel UMC have fed 63,537 people! This year alone they have packed 6,830 lunches to go with two more weeks of service. It is anticipated that we will surpass 8,000 lunches by the end of the summer program. It is anticipated that these 2 weeks will put the total over 8,000 for 2023, making a grand total of 71,000. They also provide 37 family boxes (for families up to 8 members) rather than give them an equal number of individual lunches.

These are lunches that meet the US government Healthy Plate program requirement for items such as fresh fruit, healthy snacks, good breakfast items (i.e., breakfast bars), and good sandwich makings. This is not a usual lunch bag-filled with items that are healthy and filling.

We have been blessed with donors such as Immanuel UMC with food donations, as well as the generous check this year. It was God's timing that this donation came at a time when the decision to reduce some of the items in the lunch because of costs, and we were able not only to continue giving food, but enlarge our giving base to new folks. We cannot say thank you enough to your church and its generosity. Our blessings extend to 38 faithful volunteers each week to pack the lunches and boxes to give to others. These folks come from various religious communities, service organizations, and the West Genesee School District.



Speaking of meals.....St. Michael's Lutheran Church offers a free meal to everyone on the last Tuesday of the month. This is a drive through opportunity and is prepared by our own Immanuel chef, Sam Paventi. Please stop by and grab a meal!

Ministries News

Dear Immanuel Church,
To improve the comfort and safety of people with mobility problems, we are writing to thank Immanuel UMC for your assistance installing a wheelchair ramp at our home in Camillus.

Mike Block took the initiative to arrange for Operation Northern Comfort, Home Depot, Channel 9 News, The Wildcat Pizza Pub, the Camillus Police Dept. and the church's Knit-n-Stitch ministry to participate.

The building project reflects sincere compassion and care for the community-serving mission of your church. This ramp makes it simple for us to leave and enter as needed and for other friends of ours to visit.

Karen and Stephen Piersall

For more on the ramp build, check out 2 news videos on [our website](#).

Mini Golf Tournament

August 5, 2023



Immanuel United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 335
Camillus NY 13031
Electronic Service Requested
Our Mission
*"To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world."*



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	office@churchofthebells.org
Website	www.churchofthebells.org
Summer Worship	9am September 3 8:30 & 10am begins Sept. 10

In Person or Facebook Live during worship

Office Hours	Monday-Friday, by appointment
Handicapped accessible	

Please join us!