



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

As this edition of our church newsletter goes to print there is still much uncertainty about the September and October programming calendar.

We are trying to figure out Kidz Club and Youth Group, trying to discern a plan for worship after the parking lot is no longer an option due to weather, and thinking about how to build a Spending Plan for 2021 during a pandemic. And none of us has ever been through anything like this before! We are re-inventing our every move almost every day.

And I have to admit to you... it's kind of tiring doing things this way. Our church staff is working hard, doing tasks they haven't done before, and learning from our mistakes as we go along! And while this might be a good way to learn... it is a tiring one for sure! But we also rejoice that God is making every step of this tiring journey with us! Scripture promises us that we are not alone... for the Holy Spirit guides and leads. Some days I know (and rely on the fact) that the Holy Spirit has to be in the motivation business, as well!

I'd love to be able to tell you all about our worship plans for the fall season, but those plans are just not yet known (at least as we go to press)! We are working diligently on those plans now but, like everything else these last 5 months, it seems agonizingly slow work! I am a person who wants to jump right in and make things happen.... but that is not how pandemics are handled. So I am trying to learn and stay open to the Holy Spirit's leading.

Keep praying for your church and the church staff. I know someday we will sit back and laugh about all this... but that day is not now! Pray that we all continue to be open and seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance. Because as scripture reminds us... "With God **ALL** things are possible!" (Matthew 19:26)

Serving Him here with you,

Pastor Jack Keating

With God
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE
Matthew 19:26

INSIDE...

Youth/ Family News
Ministries News

Youth/Family

Kidz Club update:

Over the last couple of weeks Ashley Davis has contacted families in our Kidz Club program to try to find out their comfort level with starting up Kidz Club in September. Based on the results of Ashley's work, and the concern parents are expressing about having their kids in group settings, we are recommending that Kidz Club start up be delayed.

So through Ashley's work we would continue:

1. A weekly Children's Message during our on-line worship service.
2. A weekly email of curriculum ideas to parents for their home use.
3. A monthly delivery of craft and program materials to the kids houses.
4. A hoped for monthly outside activity that could be mission orientated. We are thinking about a CROP walk in September and perhaps a Rake & Run in October.



Jr/Sr High Youth update:

We sent out surveys to our Jr/Sr high families and had similar results as the Kidz club families. Therefore, we will be delaying the start of Jr/Sr High Sunday school classes for now. Chris and Erin Paoli will work on organizing some youth group events that could include virtual game night and outside activities like Rake & Run or Mini Golf.

This year is a confirmation year. We have 2 eligible students, one in 8th grade and one in 9th grade. We are considering holding a class for 6th – 9th grade, beginning in January, 2021. If your child would like to join our confirmation class, please let Pastor Jack or Pastor Pam know.

Please check your emails for updates and remember that Pastor Jack and Pastor Pam are available for any questions or concerns.

Dorothy Martin, our Nursery Supervisor, let us know that she will not be returning to Immanuel in the Nursery room. She has the blessing of caring for her newest grandson and his brother, including Sunday mornings. We are grateful for Dorothy's loving care of our littlest members and wish her well spending time with her family.



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.

Our Justice Bible/Book study continues on Mondays at 7pm and Wednesdays at 10am. Both are on Zoom. We will be reading "White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo. We will resume on Sept. 14 and 16. Please join in! Email Pastor Jack to be included.

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.



Coming soon.... Barb Merckel will be leading a new class entitled Building an Effective Immune System Through Nutrition. Topics will include:

- Your immune system, what it is, How it works
- How nutrition affects immunity to viruses and bacterial illness

- Foods that strengthen our immune system
- Foods that depress our immune system

And again, some healthy recipes!
Date and time to be decided. Let Barb know if you are interested, class size may be limited.
bmerckel@live.com or 315-256-7501



And some recipes!



The Mission Team has had the opportunity to bless three different organizations this past summer thanks to your generosity. Our first blessing was made to Camillus First United Methodist Church. We donated \$250.00 to their summer brown bag lunch program. Camillus First has served over 5,000 bag lunches this summer which you helped make happen with your contributions to Immanuel's 3M account.

Our next blessing was made to the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) from Morris United Methodist Church. A team from Morris UMC took part in restoring a floor in a home in Sauquoit, New York that was hit hard by the 2019 Halloween storm. We purchased supplies from Home Depot that were used in the restoration of the floors with Immanuel's disaster relief monies. Thank you, again, for supporting this effort.

Our third blessing was to Brown Memorial UMC for their back-to-school supplies/backpack drive. This is a mission that Immanuel has been supporting for many years. We were able to give Brown Memorial \$250.00 towards their supply drive.

Every time you make a donation to the 3M account, every time you buy something at the craft show, or buy a door spray or attend our Mini Golf Tournament, you are supporting the mission work we do here at Immanuel UMC. On behalf of the entire Mission Team, I thank you for your incredible generosity.

~Carol A. Doucette



Our meal ministry is starting back up! Once a month, we provide a home cooked meal to our shut in friends. If you would like to receive a meal or would like to help deliver meals, please contact the church office at churchofthebells@gmail.com or 315-487-1171.



Church Maintenance Day

Last fall the Trustees organized a Church Maintenance Day. With the success of that effort last year the Trustees planned to schedule another Church Maintenance Day on May 30 this year. Unfortunately, the closure of the church resulting from the COVID-19 PAUSE forced us to postpone that event.

We have decided to reschedule Church Maintenance Day for September 19, 9:00 am to 1:00 PM. September 26 is planned as rain date if weather is not favorable on the 19th. We will be developing a list of jobs that need to be done.

A church sign-up list also cannot be employed this year under the circumstances. If you would like to participate, please send an email to Jerry Sabattis at jsabatti@twcny.rr.com or call 315-243-4336 and Pam Blocklin at pblocklin@gmail.com or call 315-466-9627. We will share more information with those people who sign up as soon as it is developed.

Please join us.
Jerry Sabattis
Trustee Chairman



3M Report

June 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$2,541.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	\$(23.46)

July 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$2,610.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Extra	\$45.54

There were shortages in March, April, May & June totaling \$2,628.84 so the funds needed to make the full mortgage payments were temporarily advanced from mission team funds. In July sufficient funds were collected to make the full mortgage payment and the extra funds of \$45.54 collected in July reduced the shortage to \$2,583.30. Distributions to the Trustees or Missions will be made after there is no longer a shortage. Any questions please call Shelley Dawson Smith @ 315- 487-1290.

DONATE TO IMMANUEL UMC

We sincerely appreciate the financial support that allows Immanuel to continue its ministries in our community and beyond!

There are 4 ways to give:

1. Mail your check payable to IUMC

Mail to:
Immanuel UMC
PO BOX 335
Camillus, NY 13031



2. Automated Electronic Transfer. If you would like to have electronic withdrawals made from your checking or savings account, you can use a hard copy authorization form that can be found at the church in the mailboxes across from the office in the slot labeled "AUTOMATED DONATION FORM" or can be downloaded by clicking on the Donate button on our website www.churchofthebells.org. You will find a place to click for a form to print and can mail the completed & signed form to:

Immanuel UMC
PO BOX 335
Camillus, NY 13031



3. Online Giving. If you would like to have electronic withdrawals made on your credit card, debit card, or from a checking or saving account, you can visit our website at www.churchofthebells.org and click on the Donate button. Follow the prompts. There is also an APP for your phone. Find more information on our website.

4. Bring your donation to worship on Sunday morning. While we will not be passing the offering plate on Sundays, there is a plate available for you to leave your donation in.

Thanks to the great generosity of this congregation, we have been able to pay all of our regular operating bills, including our staff salaries and are up to date on our Shared Ministries obligations. Thanks be to God!



Thank You

Church Family,

Thank you all for helping me grow in life, from morals and manners, to my beliefs with God. I am so grateful to know that I've had such wonderful people with me all along.

Sincerely, Tyriq

Editor's note: Please keep Tyriq in prayer as he is at basic training for the Army National Guard. He will begin college in January.

~~~~~  
Received from Camillus First UMC:

Dear Pam,

This year the pandemic presented new and challenging adaptations for the Brown Bag Lunch Program, however, the support from you and all your church family enabled us to sustain our mission.

Thank you for: your time coordinating volunteers, the very generous contributions of items from our "wish list" and the checks from the Mission Team and individual contributors. Our program is a community operation, and working together is the way we make a difference in the lives of others.

I look forward to working with you and members of your church family again. If we can help you in any way, please let me know.

Blessings to you,  
Jean Whipple, Brown Bag Director

\*\*\*\*\*  
The Tuesday Maintenance Group would like to thank John Henderson for his many dedicated years of service mowing the church property. You are greatly appreciated. Enjoy your retirement!!!

\*\*\*\*\*  
Thanks to Ashley, who has been editing our online worship services for us! Also, many thanks to Tom Turton for final editing, posting and keeping our website up to date! These services are even more important as we have had to rely on our online opportunities during the pandemic.



Pastor Pam has special training in providing individual Spiritual Direction. This is an opportunity to meet one on one to grow your personal relationship with God, make a discernment, and grow your faith. Usually meetings are once a month for about an hour. These can be held in person or virtually. If you would like more information or to set up an appointment, contact Pastor Pam at [churchofthebells@gmail.com](mailto:churchofthebells@gmail.com) or call the church office at 315-487-1171 **page 4**

# Welcome to our New Members

On Sundays, August 9 and August 16, we welcomed six people into our Immanuel Family.

August 9, 2020

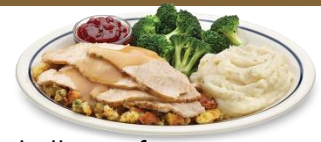


Welcome Lois, Irv, David, Julie and Josh!

August 16, 2020



Welcome Jane!



## Turkey Dinner

This year has been a challenge for everyone, constant changes, but one thing we can count on is that the Election Day Turkey Dinner is still being planned and will take place on Nov 3, 2020. The difference this year is that it will be takeout only. NO INSIDE SEATING.. The menu will be the same. We will still need volunteers to help on Tuesday. **Right now I am looking for a couple volunteers to help in the kitchen on Mon Nov 2**, contact me via e-mail [bev-dave925@gmail.com](mailto:bev-dave925@gmail.com) or call me (315) 569-0953. I will get back to you. Subject line, Turkey Dinner.

**Please keep Tuesday Nov 3 open for the Election Day Turkey Dinner.**

David Stanton



I'm writing to you all to let you know about what's going on with music at Immanuel! These past several months have been challenging for all of us, especially those of us who rely on church choir for emotional, social, and spiritual needs! While we are not able to gather as a group to sing there are other musical activities we can do!

I would like to re-start Immanuel's handbell choir. We will begin rehearsal on Thursday, September 10 at 6:45PM for set-up with rehearsal beginning at 7PM. Dan and I are working on some Ring-and-Sing hymns we can all perform (no music reading required), but I also would like to try some SIMPLE songs with notated music (minimal music reading needed).

You do NOT need to be a choir member to participate! All are welcome!

Here is what I need to know:

- Who is interested in playing handbells? Contact info (email/phone)
- Are you able to read music?
- Do you only want to participate in Ring-and-Sing?
- Do you want to learn to play music from notation?

Hope you're all staying safe and healthy!



Dan and Lisa Miller

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



## September / October 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](mailto:churchofthebells@gmail.com) and request removal.



|                        |                                                                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pastor                 | Pastor Jack Keating                                                        |
| Phone                  | (315) 487-1171                                                             |
| Email                  | <a href="mailto:churchofthebells@gmail.com">churchofthebells@gmail.com</a> |
| Website                | <a href="http://www.churchofthebells.org">www.churchofthebells.org</a>     |
| Worship                | online                                                                     |
| Kidz Club              | via email and website                                                      |
| Office Hours           | Tues/Fri 10-12:30; Wed. 9-1                                                |
| Handicapped accessible |                                                                            |

*Please join us!*