

# IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWS

August 2009

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## FROM YOUR PASTOR

I don't like bees and wasps. My disdain for these winged warriors goes back to my earliest days. I was playing on the farm, probably in a place I wasn't supposed to be (pardon the pun), and I stepped in what I recall was a nest of bees. I won't go into all the sordid details except to say my clearest memory of the incident was three bees in my shorts. I was out of my clothes in record time for a five year old. I remember my dad working nearby and running over to provide reassurance to a hysterical child. I have never cared for bees from that day on. While the wasps weren't directly involved, I have made them guilty by their winged association.

Earlier this year I noticed a small wasp nest being built in the corner of the garage right over the door I use to enter and exit. Of course, my very first thought was, "That nest has to go." One day while taking out the garbage, I used an old newspaper to try and knock down the nest. I took a swing and missed. I aggravated the wasps. I decided I would leave the nest alone.

Now I have become interested in watching the activity of the nest each day that I go into the garage. The wasps, there are actually three of them, are usually crawling over or around the nest. I can see the whites of the eggs extending from the nest. They hardly seem to notice as I enter the garage, but they are usually quite upset anytime I leave the garage. I guess they just like having me around.

The relationship with the wasps this summer has provided one more reminder that God's world is big enough for all. We have those things that are not favorites and we can think of stuff that makes our skin crawl. But all of God's creation, every person and every animal, has purpose; even bees and wasps. What we don't like, we can still accept. So I live with a new respect for wasps and bees – as long as they stay out of my shorts! Enjoy the rest of summer.

*Pastor Brady*

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Pastor's Report – Immanuel United Church of Christ - Council Meeting – Monday Aug 2, 2009

**Worship** – Service of Holy Communion on August 1, 2009. Guest was Sydney Guthrie who provided special music.

**Pastoral Care** – Calls continue as necessary. We have delivered all the flowers from flower Sunday for all our homebound members. The flowers are appreciated.

**Community Activity** – Food 4 Kids continues for the summer with over 4200 meals being served at all three locations and 3053 meals served at Taylor Chapel and Immanuel. Last year, Taylor and Immanuel served 3100 meals for the whole summer.

**Committee Meetings** – The worship committee (08-16/1:30); Evangelism (08-17/5:30); and Stewardship all plan to meet before the next council meeting.

**Congregational Activity Review** – The second General Synod meeting was held yesterday following worship to review the highlights of General Synod.

Camp Immanuel – Vacation Bible School was a huge success. There was a volunteer pizza party on July 27. Thanks to all who helped with VBS.

Confirmation begins this fall. A parent/mentor organizational meeting is August 24 at 6:45.

A program to recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of our church organ is planned for Sunday afternoon September 13. The worship committee is organizing with details to follow.

**Congregational Goals for 2009** – Prayerfully continue to discern where God is calling us to be as a faith community.

Welcoming new members and old friends. On this note, we welcome Melody Swearingin as our newest member at Immanuel. Melody joined on July 26.

Work is underway on congregational goals for 2010.

**UCC Update** – The conference biennial meeting is October 30 – November 1 in Independence. We are still looking for delegates to represent Immanuel UCC. This is an important meeting as changes within the conference, as proposed by the Habakkuk Task Force will be considered. Western Association council will meet at Immanuel on August 27 from 10-1.

**Personal** – I have completed clergy boundary training requirement for the next three years. This is required by the committee on ministry for all clergy with standing in the western association.

I will be on vacation August 5 – August 13.

I will be using my last continuing education day on Monday August 31 when I travel to the Du-bois Center outside of Nashville, IL for a seminary friends retreat.

I offer a big word of thanks to all folks who help around the church and parsonage with maintenance and upkeep. You know who you are. Thank you!

## COUNCIL MINUTES (unapproved)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Council President Leora Bremer. Those in attendance were Leora Bremer, Wayne Baslee, Gary Case, Dee Cain, Letitia Gerlt, Phil Gerlt, Tim Harster, John Kritos, David Moore, Kathy Smith, Carole Weese, and Pastor Brady Abel.

Pastor Brady opened with a prayer and shared scripture from Isaiah 25 1-6a. He shared a reading and presented the question, "How often do clergy remind congregations and themselves that our call comes from God?" and "How often does the congregation remind themselves that our call as a faith community comes from God?"

The minutes of the last meeting were amended to correct a date for the congregational update on July 19 (previously reported as June 19). Also, contact paper does not need to be replaced at this time and the notation from the health inspector from the minutes was just for future reference. IN should be a lower case n on financial reports. Phil made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Dee seconded and the motion carried.

### Financial Reports:

**OCWM**– Pastor Brady reported that total year-to-date giving for OCWM is \$2370.50 vs. last year at \$2815.00. We had been running about \$300.00 behind previously but the gap is widening. Pastor Brady encouraged everyone to think about ways in the future to generate revenue to

show some increase over 2008.

**Treasurers**– Gary Case reported that we should be indexing at 58 percent of our total budget at end of July. Income is at 56.58% with a total income of \$56,658.16. The bottom line shows that we are at (-\$8504.14) for the year which is in line with our projected deficit. Gary reminded the council that the deficit figure is higher than the index due to the third quarter pensions and health insurance being paid in advance. Expenses in the 200 series are indexing at 54.55%. The 300 series is indexing at 48.97%. Total expenses indexed at 59.34% of total budget. Gary noted that in order to whittle down the projected deficit we will have to have a good German Dinner and some positive return on Food 4 Kids in order to help balance the budget. The total current assets according to the balance sheet are \$228,870.78.

**Benevolence**– Gary Case reported that Benevolence had a balance of \$907.90 total with \$750.00 of that allocated for the Eden Scholarship, and \$116.00 allocated to engineers without borders.

**Memorial**– Leora reported in Carol's absence and there were no changes to the Memorial Fund.

**Improvement & Maintenance**– Wayne Baslee reported that income for July was \$630.03. Disbursements totaled \$184.25 with \$46.00 to Walmart for cleaning supplies, \$14.96 to Lowes for ad-

ditional cleaning supplies, \$56.04 to Smith Paper, and \$4.99 for a light bulb that Brady purchased, \$15.00 to Tim for lawn mowing, and \$46.85 for locks for the parsonage.

**Food-4-Kids**– Pastor Brady gave the Food 4 Kids report. The ending balance was \$1711.96. Donations were received in the amount of \$1130.00. The State of Missouri has paid \$3768.08 that was not reflected in the report. \$750.00 of the state money will go to Wesley UMC for their part of the Food 4 Kids program.

Tim moved to accept the financial reports, Phil seconded and the motion carried.

**Pastor's Report**– See Report

### Committee Reports:

**Fellowship**– October 24 has been set as the date for German Dinner and planning will start soon.

**Improvement & Maintenance**– Wayne reported that he researched the KCPL thermostat control program. After speaking with them, they said they would replace all seven of the thermostats, they are about \$300 dollars each, but that they would control the settings and overrides are only allowed once a month. No adjustments can be made on

(cont'd on page 4)

holidays or weekends. They would control all temperatures. Gary moved to table the issue, John seconded and the energy savings program was tabled. Wayne will contact Mary McLaughlin in the near future regarding the lounge. Leora presented the priority list of repairs and discussion was held. Each council member will be given a copy of the existing list and asked to prioritize or add needs to the list for further discussion at the next meeting.

**Evangelism**—Meeting 8/17 at 5:30

**Outreach**—No Report

**Worship & Music**— Meeting 8/16 at 1:30

**Stewardship**— Gary Case reported that they will be meeting 8/25 at 6:00. Stewardship Sundays will be September 13, 20, and 27. Pledge cards will probably be coming out in October. Gary suggested that the September Council Meeting be moved due to the Holiday. The council determined that the meeting will be Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

**Christian Education**— Carole Weese reported that Sunday school begins September 13. Thanks for all that helped with VBS.

**Health & Wellness**— Leora reported that some educational activities have occurred with Food 4 Kids and some more are planned in August. Discussion was also held about people donating books for the library in order to increase interest.

**Technology**— Tim Harster reported that the printer has been installed at Minerva's computer and Brady and

Minerva are sharing that printer. We need to select a replacement for the laser printer. Tim reported that approximately \$700 would buy a nice printer/ scanner/copier/fax from Staples. Tim moved to purchase a new printer/copier not to exceed \$1000.00 total cost to be paid from the memorial fund in order to replace the copy machine. John seconded and discussion was held. A vote was taken and the motion carried. Gary moved to end the maintenance agreement on the current copier, Dave seconded and the motion carried.

**Pastoral Relations**— Dee Cain reported that they had looked at goals for 2009 and planned for 2010. She reported that the committee was pleased with the accomplishments this year.

**Food 4 Kids**— No Report

**Executive Committee**— No Report

**Old Business:**

Executive committee will review membership rolls in the next few months

Biennial Missouri-Mid South Conference meeting – Oct. 30-November 1, 2009. We need to select delegates so they can become familiar with the issues that are to be discussed at the meeting. There are suggestions for restructuring and reorganizing the conference

**New Business:**

Council members to conduct Worship Service on August 9<sup>th</sup>

Kathy suggested people bringing old magazines to share with other members. After they are out of date Kathy would volunteer to recycle them. Also, if you take the Kansas City Star or a local paper, cut out coupons and hold a coupon swap.

Dee suggested opening the doors between the Red Room and the Sanctuary during fellowship times. Discussion was held regarding a large hole in the area between the sidewalk and the street on the Southeast corner of church. Dee said that she contacted the city and they will look at it.

Kathy Smith was welcomed as a new member of the council.

Gary requested direction regarding whether to keep or destroy the bids taken for the Window Project earlier this year. It was decided that the bids and information are to be recycled.

Gary reported that we received the appraisals on stained glass windows from Willet Hauser. \$357,720.00 was the total value of all windows with some of the larger valuations being \$96,000.00 for the south window and \$19,720.00 for the Jesus window.

Pastor Brady led the council in The Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm. John Kritos,  
Secretary

## Lending Library

The Health & Wellness Committee would like to acquire some additional books for the Marvin G. Albright Library. These may be novels, religious, inspiration, biographical or any good, enjoyable reading. Books donated to the library will become property of Immanuel. If you would like to donate books please leave them on the desk in the library so they may be checked in. I will keep you informed of some of the acquisitions in the coming months so you can find some good reads. We would ask that you return books in a reasonable length of time so others may enjoy them also. We will have a sign out procedure in order to keep track of books. If you have a favorite book but want to keep it please recommend it to the committee for purchase; we have some funds for purchase of new books.

Magazines can now be recycled at church. You may leave the magazines on the table in the Red Room and everyone is welcome to pick up the ones they

would like to read. As issues are retired they will be taken to the recycling center. You do not need to sign out for magazines. There will also be a box for a "coupon swap." Bring coupons you do not plan to use and pick up coupons for your favorite products.

Health & Wellness Committee and Church Council  
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## Musical Recital

On September 12, our beautiful and cherished **pipe organ** will be **one hundred years old!**

In honor of this anniversary, we will be hosting a musical recital at Immanuel UCC on **Sunday** afternoon **September 13 at 2:00**. The recital, hosted by the music and worship committee and featuring our musical director John Kritos, the Immanuel UCC choir, and guest Jan Dunstan will highlight our pipe organ, officially known as the **Wicks Opus 819 Organ**.

Refreshments will follow the recital, which

will last about 45 minutes. Please plan to attend and celebrate this amazing center piece of our blessed and holy sanctuary.

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## HELP! HELP!

**Fellowship time** continues each Sunday morning from **9:45 to 10:15 a.m.**

We need **YOU** to sign up to bring cookies or a breakfast treat and provide coffee or juice. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Red Room.

Thanks in advance for your help.



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Start **PLANNING** now for the **German Dinner October 24, 2009 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

## PARRISH NURSE NEWS

### Have Some Fun:

You will need access to a computer to do this. Go to [www.sonnyradio.com/Realage3.swf](http://www.sonnyradio.com/Realage3.swf). You will get a program where you can calculate your virtual age and life expectancy. As the site says, "The longevity and vitality of your life is relative to your lifestyle, activities and health, not just your date of birth." Have fun doing the survey; it is also a reminder of the things that impact our lives in a healthy manner and those that affect our bodies adversely.

If you want to check out your I.Q. go to [www.sonnyradio.com/leapfrogs.htm](http://www.sonnyradio.com/leapfrogs.htm). See if you can solve the leapfrog puzzle.

### Eye Facts:

It's a myth, "Older people shouldn't use their eyes to much or read fine print because it will wear their eye out." Using your eyes doesn't cause vision loss.

Another myth, "The only way you can get conjunctivitis is from someone else who has it." Pink eye or conjunctivitis, a condition in which the eye lid and the conjunctiva or clear membrane covering the white part of the eye gets inflamed can be transferred from one person to another but it can also be caused by irritants, allergies or infection.

Did you know? Babies cry but don't produce tears until about 3

months old. Each of our eye lashes has a life span of about 5 months. Of all the muscles in our body, the eye muscles are the most active.

What are **cataracts**? A cataract is a clouding of the crystalline lens of the eye that makes it hard for light to pass through and be focused properly. In a normal eye, the lens is almost transparent, however injury, age or disease can cause the lens to lose its clarity. When the lens becomes 'opaque,' it is called a cataract and is treatable by surgery.

What does it mean if I am **near-sighted**? This is a condition where distant objects appear less clearly and objects up close are seen clearly.

What is **Presbyopia**? When you are young, the lens in your eye is soft and flexible. It changes shape easily, allowing you to focus on objects both close and far away. As you grow older, the lens becomes rigid. By age 40, the lens can't change shape as easily as it once did and it is more difficult to read at close range. This is very normal and is called Presbyopia. This is when reading glasses or bifocals are needed to help your eye focus. The lens continues to harden, so prescription changes are needed as you grow older.

An **Optometrist** has a Bachelor's degree with required undergraduate coursework in the sciences and then continues in Optometry School which consists of four years of study focusing on the eye, vi-

sion, pharmacology and systemic diseases that affect the eye. After graduation they must pass a National Exam and are required to complete continuing education classes to stay current in the latest standards of care. An optometrist does have the title, Doctor.

An **Ophthalmologist** is an M.D. or D.O. who is a specialist for medical and surgical eye problems. They have completed a college degree, medical school and an additional four years of post-graduate training in ophthalmology. Some even take additional training in one of the subspecialties. Continuing medical education is required for continuing licensure and recertification.

Leora Bremer, R.N.  
Parish Nurse

Source: [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org),  
[www.vsp.com/html/glossary](http://www.vsp.com/html/glossary)

*Information written in parish Nurse News is not intended as a substitute for Professional medical advice. Consult your health care provider concerning your individual health care needs or in emergency situation seek medical assistance immediately.*



The Open Door Pantry Our intrepid gardeners have been out in full force!! They and those of us who are not Green Thumb blessed, contributed a whopping 1,078 pounds of food this period. This windfall brings our annual giving to 5,094 pounds. Three cheers for all of us.

We worked 33 hours this period; annual total = 291 hours.

The Pantry can use:

Any extra garden produce

Pasta & sauce or mac & cheese dinners  
Jello & pudding mix  
Canned fruit & veggies  
ANYTHING ELSE YOU CARE TO GIVE

We had a little more food to distribute August 10. The "Back Room Gang" bagged nice Red Delicious apples. We also had 10 pound bags of potatoes to give, along with canned fruit juice, canned veggies and cereal. The number of families seeking help continues to grow

(Surprise! Surprise!). We served 98 families (294 individuals). The prior week the Pantry served more than 110 families EACH DAY. Thank Heaven school will soon open so kids will get 2 meals each day. That will help some families.

Betty Guth



## SUNDAY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

On July 27, around 25 volunteers for VBS gathered together with pizza, salad and dessert. **THANKS** to all volunteered in anyway to help Camp Immanuel be a grand success at Immanuel. There were 14 who gathered to see the movie G-Force on August 1. **Sunday School** will begin on Sunday **September 13**. There will be an organizational meeting for the parents of upcoming confir-

mands **August 24 at 6:45**. Confirmation will begin in late September.

*Julie Bales*



**Church Women United** will sponsor the **Human Rights Celebration** on September 12, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at Ward Memorial Baptist Church, 412 North Osage, Sedalia, Mo. For more information contact Joyce Williams.

## FOOD 4 KIDS

Food 4 Kids is still going strong—serving approximately 50 meals per day!

Our last day for the summer will be Friday, September 4th. As always, we'll be doing an extra spe-

cial event that day so if you're available to help from 11 am to 1 pm, please let us know. Also, don't forget to sign the calendar in the Red Room if you're willing to help any day prior to that.

Hopefully, all of you

have seen the nice, big, colorful ad in the Sedalia Democrat on Mondays. Not only is this a great way for people to learn about Food 4 Kids, but it's also getting Immanuel's name out there weekly. It's just one more way people are benefiting

from this very rewarding program.

As always, a special thanks goes out to each and every one of you who have helped make Food 4 Kids a success day after day.

Lynda Hartman

**BIRTHDAYS**

- |                      |                          |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 5 - Brea Anna Franke | 11 - Arlen Joy           | 21 - Tonny Cazares |
| 6 - Carson Brown     | 18 - Nolan Simon         | 23 - Jacob Reno    |
| Claudia Weese        | 19 - Calvin Meisenheimer | 26 - Ardean Rulfs  |
| 10 - Becca Wilbanks  | 20 - Ryan Gawedzinski    | Melody Freeman     |
|                      |                          | 30 - Carole Weese  |

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- |                         |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5 - Sam & Diane Mehan   | 15 - Tom & Kathy Smith  | 28 - Jim & Luann Stovall |
| 6 - Rick & Kathy Dority | 18 - Phil & Cindy Gerlt |                          |

**EVENTS**

- |                                    |                                                       |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 - Food 4 Kids ends               | 13 - 1:00 pm - Celebration of 100 year old Wick Organ |
| 6 - Communion Sunday               | 14 - Open Door Food Pantry                            |
| 7 - Labor Day                      | 15 - 4:30 pm - Health & Wellness Meeting              |
| 8 - 7:00 pm - Council Meet         | Newsletter Items due                                  |
| 12 - 10:00 - 2:00 - Habakkuk Meet. | 20 - Stewardship Sunday                               |
| 13 - Sunday School starts          | 27 - Stewardship Sunday                               |
| Stewardship Sunday                 |                                                       |
| Blood Pressure Sunday              |                                                       |

# SEPTEMBER 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |     |     |
|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

## Lectionary Readings

September 6:

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalm 125

James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

September 13:

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

September 20:

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

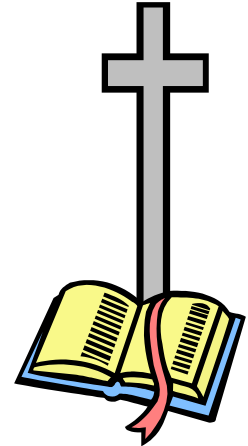
September 27:

Est. 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm 124

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50



# SHARING OUR TALENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

### USHERS AND COMMUNION

#### LITURGISTS

September 6 - John Kritos  
September 13 - Durward Guth  
September 20 - Letitia Gerlt  
September 27 - Don Barbour

#### ACOLYTES

September 6 - Madison Knight  
September 13 - Megan and Allie Wilbanks  
September 20 - Madison Knight  
September 27 - Paige Staus

### GREETERS

September 6 - Gerald & Betty Holman  
September 13 - Tom & Kathy Smith  
September 20 - Durward & Betty Guth  
September 27 - Kenneth & Tammy Manuel

### FLOWERS

September 6 - Joan Allen  
September 13 - Sam & Diane Mehan  
September 20 - Marlin & B. J. Tegtmeyer  
September 27 - Joyce Williams

### NURSERY

CAN YOU HELP IF NEEDED???

Nadine Hopkins, wife of Charles Hopkins, and long time member of Immanuel, passed away on Friday, August 7, 2009 at Bothwell Regional Health Center. Rev. Ken Zindle officiated at the Christian burial on Tuesday, August 11, 2009. Burial was in Highland Sacred Gardens. Nadine is survived by her husband, Charles, 1 son and 2 daughters. She also was the niece of Ruth Bremer.

B. J. Tegtmeyer's brother, Dwight Milam, underwent open heart surgery July 23 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield. He is now home recuperating and doing well.

Sunshine Gerlt has been moved to Fairview Nursing Home, 1714 W. 16th Street, Sedalia, Mo.

Ruth Bremer is now at Rest Haven Convalescent and Retirement Home, 1800 S. Ingram, Sedalia, Mo.

Aileen Brauer is residing at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Larry Grotzinger. Her new address is 4998 Vernon Rd, Sedalia, Mo.

**WELCOME** to **Melody Swearingen** who joined Immanuel's church family on July 26th. So glad to have you with us, Melody.

Please remember these members and all the homebound members in your prayers.



## Readin' & Writin' Packs

- |                                                    |                        |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 new pencils with erasers                         | 2" eraser              |
| 2 ink pens (medium point)                          | 1 box of 24 crayons    |
| 1 pair child-sized metal scissors                  | 1 pencil holder        |
| 12" ruler                                          | 6 folders with pockets |
| 2 spiral or tape bound notebooks (total 140 pages) |                        |

Place smaller items inside the pencil holder. **The church has 2 gallon zip lock bags available to place all items in.** These packs need to be brought to the church no later than October 11, 2009. They will be taken to the Festival of Sharing on October 17, 2009. These packs stay in Missouri. We already have over 50 - let's see how many we can share. Thanking you in advance for donating these helpful school kits.