



Journey Connection

April 2026

Mission Statement of Immanuel Church

To be and to make Spirit-filled followers of Christ who shine the light of God's love to the world.

Welcome to Immanuel Church!

We at Immanuel are on a joyful journey – with Jesus – to disclose His presence in the world and His love for all people. With Humility, we invite **everyone** to join us, **regardless** of their relationship with Jesus, and even if they doubt His reality. And we invite **everyone** to join us, **regardless** of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, family status, or the brokenness of their lives. On this journey there are no judgments – just Jesus. Whoever you are, **you are welcome** to join us!

If you desire information about becoming more involved in Immanuel Church, please contact Rev. Rich Vincent pastor@immanuelwestbend.org or Jenny Landowski director@immanuelwestbend.org or leave a message at the church office (262) 334-2886



A word, or two from our Pastor...

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ,

Easter season is upon us and I am grateful to be present with you as we celebrate the climactic dawn of God's great salvation revealed in the triumph of Jesus Christ over the powers of sin, death, and injustice through the resurrection. Though the world (of which we are a part) rejects God's "Anointed One" and does its best to silence, overthrow, and ultimately, erase him, God raises Christ through the Spirit into resurrection glory that we might see (in advance) where God is leading all things – into the light of God's eternal life and love. This hope gives us confidence in the future and strength for the present. It is good news of the highest order!

One of the great promises of the risen Christ is "I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). With this promise in mind, our focus throughout the Easter Season will be on words that reveal God's sustaining and strengthening presence in Christ. On Easter Sunday, we will reflect on the angel's message that "Christ goes *before* us" (Matthew 28:7). In following weeks, we will encounter the Christ who is...

- *Among* us (John 20:19-31)
- *Beside* us (Luke 24)
- *With* us (Psalm 23)
- *In* us (Acts 2)

This all comes to a climax on "Trinity Sunday" when we celebrate the God who is *for*, *with*, and *in* us. This complete immersion into the life and love of God is what the phrase "Father, Son, and Spirit" is meant to inspire: As Abba, God is *for* us. As Christ, God is *with* us. As Spirit, God is *in* us. It is this "divine" life – the uncreated, eternal life of God that comes to light in Christ and is experienced in the Spirit – that should be our anchor and our joy, inspiring how we live and how we treat others.

I certainly hope you will join us for this celebration of God's goodness and mercy so that we might partner together as ministers to build up ourselves, one another, our community, and our world. After all, our mission is "To be and to make Spirit-filled followers of Christ who shine the light of God's love to the world." We do this best together. And we do this together the best when we "show up" for ourselves and – more importantly – for one another.

Grace and peace,
Rich



On behalf of our President...

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ,

Happy spring! With spring comes our spring congregational meeting. The meeting is set for April 19th following the second service.

On the agenda for this meeting will be the following: approval/welcoming of two new consistory members, property updates, financial overview, vote on adjusted staff compensation, and a capital campaign overview. The last two items are not “normally” on our spring agenda. Here is some information for you ahead of the meeting. The adjusted staff compensation is a proposal from the consistory to use the funds not paid to Pastor Rich while he was on medical leave. These funds would be divided among the staff who worked above and beyond during Pastor’s absence. The capital campaign overview will discuss exciting ideas for the bathrooms and courtyard.

I hope you plan to join us at the spring congregational meet, as we work together to love and support our church. Please continue to keep our church family in your prayers. And, as always, shine the light of God’s love to the world.

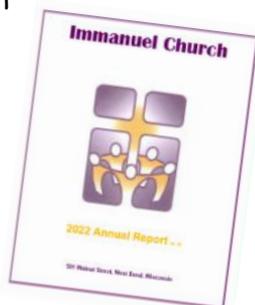
Blessings,
Amy



Spring Congregational Meeting April 19th at 11:45am

Hard copies of the
Annual Reports are located in front
of the main office.

 **Mark Your
Calendar**
Don't sit on the sidelines...Get involved!



Thoughts from our Pastoral Assistant / Director of Ministries

Dear Immanuel Church family and friends,

The below devotion was one of the daily reflections from the UCC Still Speaking series...

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?
- Psalm 116:12 (KJV)

It's estimated that approximately one third of the U.S. population, or some 64 million Americans, volunteer each year. This equates to \$139 billion worth of time annually. Most charitable/nonprofit organizations, including churches, could not function without the dedicated volunteer hours and financial contributions of persons who believe in their causes and willingly invest time and resources for their support.

But what about the other approximate two-thirds of us who don't volunteer to support any effort or cause outside the immediacy of our own comfort and convenience? And what about the approximate 30% of church volunteers in most churches, who are often called upon to do 100% of the work?

According to Jesus, what we receive in life is in direct proportion to what we are willing to give back: "Give and it shall be given unto you" (Luke 6:38). Jesus went on to say that to whom much is given, much will be required.

In God's economy, our own desire for increase is connected to our willingness to give back. God doesn't just send blessings to us; God sends blessings through us. We are not reservoirs of self-aggrandizement. We are conduits of amazing grace.

Wisdom tells us that service to others is the rent we pay for being on the planet. May the 70% of us who never ask the question, "What shall I render?" bring our rent payment out of delinquency.

And when new volunteers show up, may they not be discouraged by the insecurities and turf-wars that sometimes derail the enthusiasm of those willing to give freely of themselves in service to others.

Prayer

Lord, you have blessed me abundantly. Help me to not just count my blessings, but to make my blessings count. Amen.



Do you ever wonder about making your “blessings” count?

Oh, to be a “Fly” on the wall at Immanuel Church during the week...

you would be amazed by the blessings you saw, or heard about



happening, in Jesus’ name... On any given day, the “Worker Bees” are tirelessly striving to create an environment that invites all to be and become Spirit-filled followers of Christ who shine the light of God’s love to the world. This comes in the form of not only preparing for Worship,



but loving, encouraging, and serving the flock of Immanuel,

our community, and beyond. And, how about those “Army Ants” that are regularly using their gifts and talents to keep things going at Immanuel and growing its ministries! The list is endless of how these gracious creatures serve! Then there are the “Praying Mantises” who take time to lift up the needs of others in faithful meditation.

Their solid devotion offers peace and comfort to many.



You would certainly see, that if it weren’t for the “Fireflies” who generously give financially to help keep our lights on, among other operating expenses, and whose contributions provide an avenue for all the insects to shine God’s love, that our secret life of bugs would cease to exist. Because of all this, the real wonderment is in the “Caterpillars” who are nurtured and transformed into “Butterflies” with wings of new hope, changing the world for the better with each glorious flutter!



From one grateful insect to the next, how are you making your blessings count? Whether you’re having trouble answering that question or not, I’d like to suggest that you attend Immanuel’s Ministry Fair on Sunday, April 26th, to see all the different opportunities for you to serve and get involved at our church. Then, I would invite you to consider the habits of the “Praying Mantis” and ask the Psalmist’s question...What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? May your heart and mind be open to the answer.

In Joy, In Service,
~Jenny



Message From our Four-way Covenant...

Dear Immanuel Church Family,

I am excited and joyful to know that you have experienced the return of Pastor Rich! What a journey you have all been on and to share Rich's return is truly a wonderful outcome!

Early in 2025, I shared with all of you that I was entering a year-long position as a designated interim pastor with First Congregational Church in Port Washington. This is a unique situation for this size church as currently, a half-time pastoral position meets their needs and resources, and at this time in my professional life, a half-time position works well for me. At the time I undertook this role, I dropped my work with UCCI to half-time which also meets the needs and resources of UCCI. Ideally, that makes a win-win-win!

Entering into a settled position in Port will put me in a three-way covenant relationship with them which will nullify the four-way covenant that we have shared since 2020. I have truly enjoyed my four-way covenant with all of you and being a regular participant and member with you. The hardest part of my transition into Port has been the fact that I have no longer shared regular time with you all. My membership will transfer to Port as well but I intend to keep my stewardship at my pledged level through this year.

To all things there is a season and a season to all things and I fully anticipate when my time in Port comes to an end, that Immanuel UCC will again become my church home. Until that time, I am sure that our paths will continue to intersect here and there.

My formal installation in Port Washington will be Sunday, April 19, at 2:00 pm. There will be an abbreviated worship service, the liturgy of installation, followed by cake and refreshments. I extend a warm invitation to the entire Immanuel UCC family and circle of friends.

Please accept my deepest appreciation for the time we have shared together in ministry over the last few years. You have welcomed Beverly and me and sharing time with you has been a joy and a blessing! **Thank you!**

I will be holding you all in prayer as we continue our journeys of life and faith.

With love and blessings,
Jim





The Committee on Ministry of the Wisconsin Conference,
United Church of Christ

Invite all members, friends and clergy of the Wisconsin
Conference and the Eastern Region to the

Installation of Rev. James Schleif



Sunday, April 19th, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

**Hosted by
First Congregational Church of Port Washington**

131 N Webster Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
(262) 284-2022

Clergy are invited to wear green, creation based or UCC style stole in
honor of earth day.

Cake and refreshments will follow the service.

*An offering will be received for the
Wisconsin Conference Member in Discernment Scholarship Fund.*

Financial Secretary...

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Immanuel UCC 2026 Annual Local Mission Budget is \$449,684.26 February 2026 Finance Report

	February	YTD
Total Income	\$73233.23	\$113,096.09
Total Expenses	<u>\$46,755.09</u>	<u>\$ 80,308.56</u>
Income vs Expenses	\$26,478.14	\$ 32,787.53

Cash Available for Church Operations March 1, 2026, \$49,888.38

Thank you for your continued support of Immanuel's local ministries mission of:

- providing meaningful life changing worship
- nurturing persons in their faith journey
- witnessing to our faith in service beyond ourselves

Just a reminder, when writing checks to Immanuel and Joyful Journeys please **write two separate checks** as this makes it easier to account for what is designated for Immanuel and what is for Joyful Journeys. Also, you can make online donations separately to Immanuel and Joyful Journeys via each of their websites, immanuelwestbend.org or joyfuljourneys-inc.org.

If you have any questions regarding Immanuel finances or would like to discuss your giving, please note my regular office hours are Tuesday's from 9am-3:00pm. You can also reach me via my email, finance@immanuelwestbend.org or leave a message on the church phone 262-334-2886 x105. I welcome the opportunity to chat with you.

Blessings,
Karen

Online Giving

In case you did not already know, both Immanuel United Church of Christ and Joyful Journeys, Inc. have the capability to receive online donations. You can set up payment via ACH from your checking account or use a credit/debit card. Just so you know that if you choose to use a credit/debit card there is a small fee of about 3.4-3.8% which the service provider reduces the amount we receive.

Offering Altar

The Offering Altar is located in the Narthex, just outside the Sanctuary. On it you will find the Giving Church; monetary donations can be slipped in through the slit on top. There is also information about Immanuel Church and its ministries along with additional contribution envelopes. If you are a visitor and would like us to contact you, please fill out the information form and drop it in the Giving Church and be sure to help yourself to a welcome packet. Also available on the Offering Altar are Prayer Request forms; prayers dropped into the Giving Church will be shared with the SonShine Gals during communal prayer time. For those interested in donating online, for your convenience, access our secure giving page on our website through the QR Code below. If we can be of further assistance to you, please contact Karen Zachow at 262-334-2886 or finance@immanuelwestbend.org



Property update...

The men's and lady's bathroom doors have been painted. Thanks go out to Mike and Glenn for their painting skills.

Consistory has requested that between our financial officer and property that we seek out information in regards to a different insurance company and looking at other options for our elevator servicing.

We were visited by a person from a company named Verisk. The purpose of his visit was to gather info, take pictures, etc. for Church Mutual Insurance. The report goes back to Church Mutual and they would use that info possibly for premium adjustments.

We are in the process of improving the storage areas upstairs for our holiday decorations and India Gala storage. New shelving is being constructed to assist in this area.

We met with Metro Elevator to find out what they would have to offer for a maintenance contract. It was a positive meeting, but we have to also find out if we are contractually bound to our current company. We will be seeking more info.

Property Team

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!

After almost 5 years of faithfully serving Immanuel Church as our Music Director / Organist, Beverly Mark has decided it's time to retire; her passionate spirit will be missed! When Beverly stepped into the position here, she brought with her enthusiasm and creativity that ignited our music department; from fresh new songs to a fresh new look, we are grateful for the positive impact she has had within our choirs and handbell ensemble, and ultimately in our worship! Beverly's final Sunday with us will be April 19th, we hope you can join us!

As Beverly transitions into this next chapter of her life, spending more time on her bike and with those who hold a special place in her heart, we wish her all the best! In gratitude for her faithfulness and hard work, we ask that you pray for Beverly's peace and wellbeing as she moves forward.



WELCOME NEW STAFF...

It is our joy to introduce our new Music Director / Organist, Tricia Abbott-Marton. Tricia will be maintaining the same schedule as Beverly for 9am Worship, playing the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month, while Larry continues with the 2nd and 4th. She is excited to meet current members of our choir and bells, as well as any newcomers next Fall. Tricia's first "official" Sunday with us will be on June 7th. A "fun fact" to share...Tricia is a longtime friend of Marlene Wondergem and offered Ministry of Music here at Immanuel with Marlene several years back. She is a member of the same professional music teachers association that both Marlene and Beverly are a part of. Please join us in welcoming Tricia! Below is a short bio that she'd like to share...

I have always loved music, from my first-grade talent show where I promenaded down the church aisle to "On The Good Ship Lollipop" to leading congregational singing with the music teacher at Friday school masses, to participating in high school choir and musicals, and getting two degrees in piano performance, and working as a church musician. I have never stopped learning about music, and I am looking forward to keeping that going while I work at Immanuel.

Right now, I am adjunct faculty at Lakeland University and teach private piano students at my home studio. In my spare time I love reading, journaling, knitting, gardening and getting together with friends.

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone and making services impactful at Immanuel.



A Note From our Choir Director...

When In Our Music God is Glorified
By Fred Pratt Green

*When in our music God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!*

*How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!*

*So has the church, in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!*

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!*

It's April, it's Holy Week, it's Easter ... and we have passed the spring equinox, so yes, it's spring! "Technically spring", since as I write I look out over 13 inches of snow in my back yard.

April also marks the end of my time as your Music Director and Organist. Thank you for welcoming me into your lives, and for your support. May God bless you, and may you continue to grow in faith and love.

~ Beverly Mark

Immanuel UCC...FLOODED with LOVE

A heartfelt “thank you” to all our Valentines who filled an envelope with \$\$ during our “Shower Immanuel with LOVE” fundraiser. Out of 100 envelopes, 76 were taken!! 🤩 The total amount that was poured into Immanuel’s General Fund was \$3,867!! 🥰 PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!!!

Our cup runneth over in response to your generosity!

Everyone who donated, was entered into the drawing...the lucky WINNER of the \$25 gift card for Kwik Trip was...Gene Kreis! Interesting fact...he chose the envelope that corresponded with his late mother’s birthdate and enclosed the amount of the age she would have celebrated.

What a beautiful gift in her honor! ❤️



“Love in a Cup” Bake Sale

Our “Love in a Cup” Bake Sale, in support of Immanuel’s Coffee Fund, was nothing short of a sweet success; we raised \$739!! Thank you to members of Consistory, all who contributed baked goods, everyone who helped with packaging and set up, and certainly everyone who purchased some form of deliciousness or simply made a donation...this group effort will certainly help cover a good chunk of our “coffee budget”! But, not all of it...

Did you miss out on the “Love in a Cup” Bake Sale? Do you appreciate a cup of coffee on Sunday mornings? Would you like to help provide coffee for members of our community who pop in throughout the course of the week? It’s not too late to help us reach our goal of \$1,536.32! Donations can be put in the Giving Church or made online, simply designate it to “Love in a Cup” and we’ll be sure to keep the pots filled! ❤️

J.A.M. Time* 2026
April 12th – 26th
Beatitudes



God blesses you when you are mocked and persecuted and lied about because you are my followers.

Matthew 5:11

Cuttin' and Struttin' – Family Crest
Kickin' Kitchen – Bee Cookies
Movin' & Groovin' – Fishing Game

UP NEXT

April 5th
April 12-26
May 3
May 10

Easter Sunday – NO JAM Time
Beatitudes
Mini-Unit
Celebration Sundaes!

~Interested in our JAM Time program...Check out the JAM Time bulletin board for program information and volunteer opportunities.

Questions? Please contact Mitch Schleif at

Excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

414-491-5057

**Jesus and Me Time – is Immanuel's Children's Ministry program for children age three through 6th grade.*

JAM Time meets Sunday mornings September - May from 10:30-11:30 in Fellowship Hall.



UCCI camp registrations are open, log on to www.UCCI.org to register for a camp at any of the three beautiful UCCI sites today!

Can't make it to a camp but still want to experience the beauty of what UCCI has to offer? Book a glamping stay at Moon Beach, or at any of the Airbnb's located at Daychola Center (Hillside Cottage, Woods Glamping Cabins) or Cedar Valley (Log House, Hundred Acre Haven).

There are also Camp Scholarship fundraiser items available in case you missed the sale or would like to restock!

Freewill donations are accepted as well, you can drop them in the Giving Church with a note designating them for the "camp scholarship fund." For more information on the UCCI camps, or any questions you may have regarding the Cedar Valley, Daychola Center, or Moon Beach sites, please contact Mitch Schleif.

The graphic has a light yellow background with a white cloud shape in the center. At the top corners are rainbows and smiling sunflowers. The text "Sunday Morning Childcare!" is written in large, colorful letters. Below the text is a paragraph of information about childcare services. At the bottom, there are illustrations of children holding hands, a stack of books with a Bible, balloons, and alphabet blocks.

Sunday Morning Childcare!

Immanuel offers childcare for children ages 3yrs and under, on Sunday mornings, during both 9:00 and 10:30am Worship. Our Nursery is located above the Narthex and can be accessed by the stairway at the end of the hall.

Children aged 4 through 6th grade are welcome to visit or enroll in J.A.M. Time (Jesus & Me Time), which takes place in the lower level during the 10:30am Worship Service. If you have questions or need direction, an Usher would be happy to assist you.

CORE



In the month of April, we are continuing to look at the Ten Commandments and its structure: In March we looked at the first four commands, focusing on our relationship with God (no other gods, no idols, respect His name, keep the Sabbath). The last six focus on relationships with others (honor parents, do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not lie, do not covet). Looking forward to more engaging discussions!

April Schedule:

April 5th – No CORE Family Worship

April 12th – Ten Commandments

April 19th – Ten Commandments

April 26th – Ten Commandments

CORE is part of Immanuel's youth ministries that serves kids in 7th & 8th grade. The foundation of CORE is reflective of it's name...exploring the core concepts of our beliefs and traditions, expanding on what it means to embrace Christianity and how it differentiates from other religions, and digging deeper into who we are at Immanuel UCC and how we can put our faith into action. They meet from 10:30-11:30am in the classroom off the west hallway in the lower level of church.

CORE Leader Johanna Landowski

confirmation@immanuelwestbend.org Church 262-334-2886 Cell 262-353-2739

SHINE

Classic Bible Stories: The Re-mix

During the month of April, we're going to take another look at some of the famous Bible stories we may have overlooked, mis-remembered, or just plain forgotten about. Maybe you missed that month in JAM Time, maybe your time to cover it happened during the COVID chaos, or maybe you just kind of glossed over the details.

Even if you think you've got them all memorized, there's always something new to discover; it's like watching a favorite movie and finding a new detail or seeing a previously "unimportant" scene with new eyes. As always, we'll approach it with a whole bunch of delight, a dash of current events and science, and some good old fashioned "off-on-a-tangent" conversation.

April Schedule:

April 5th- EASTER (Family Worship Sunday)

April 12th- SHINE

April 19th- SHINE

April 26th- SHINE

Shine is faith and fellowship building program for high school students. You don't need to register or commit- just come downstairs to the church basement and find the room at the bottom of the stairs that has all the couches.

Questions? Comments? Talk to Elise!

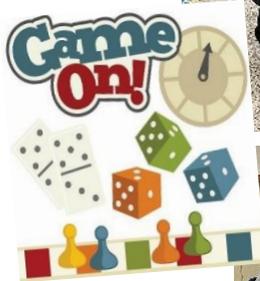
(262) 343-1149 or shine@immanuelwestbend.org

F.I.T. Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch...

Another great get together!
If you missed this one, stay tuned for our next gathering!



Youth Group Dinner & Games!





YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY
APRIL
4TH

MR. BOB'S UNDER THE BRIDGE
6:45AM-10:30AM
KOSCIUSZKO PARK IN MILWAUKEE

SAT-SUN
APRIL
18TH - 19TH

LOCK-IN 6PM - 9AM
IMMANUEL CHURCH BASEMENT

SATURDAY
MAY
9TH

SPRING CLEANUP DAY
8:30AM-NOON
CHURCH PARKING LOT



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT JO AT:
youthgroup@immanuelwestbend.org

SonShine Gals

The SonShine Gals is an eclectic group of women who share a common thread of growing together in faith and love through various book and spiritual studies, video discussions and prayer.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 10:00am-11:30am.

Our current book study is...

The Cup of Our Life ~ a guide to spiritual growth by Joyce Rupp
Consider joining us, you are welcome.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining us,
please contact Jenny Landowski

Wise Guys

Hey fellas! Wise Guys is our men's ministry that meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00pm. You are invited to attend this social time including dinner and a short discussion.

The sign-up sheet for **April 16th** is located on the bulletin board outside the main offices. Consider checking it out, and while you're at it, bring a friend!



“Sharing Today’s Word” Immanuel UCC Adult Discussion Group

We are excited to invite any individuals, beyond high school age, to check out our Adult Discussion Group, “Sharing Today’s Word”.

This group meets on Sundays at 10:30am to discuss the sermon from that morning; they gather in the space connected to the Friendship Room where Fellowship Time treats are served.

Sharing Today’s Word will NOT meet on April 5th or 26th

Wondering what to expect?? First off, your attendance can be as consistent or sporadic as you’d like it to be, as each gathering will be based off that day’s message. This group does not have to come to a consensus. We can educate each other by sharing our opinions, ideas, and interpretations. By questioning and discussions, we will strive to develop and strengthen our faith. Hopefully, we will be able to help each other to not just listen effectively to the pastor’s word but also make his message part of our lives.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kent at kscheuerell@gmail.com

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you enjoy knitting and/or crocheting?

Consider joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry and add a special purpose to your hobby. In addition to Prayer Shawls, they've made sweaters for the children in India, hat's for Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, scarves for our Soul Box, and Prayer Squares for new members.

This group meets on the 4th Monday of each month during September – May and invites you to join them. For more information, contact Rosemary Seideman at roseway12@charter.net .

Inquirers Luncheon

Have you been visiting Immanuel Church and wish to learn more about us?
Are you interested in becoming a member?

JOIN PASTOR RICH AND JENNY FOR LUNCH

Sunday, April 12th at 11:45

We would love to share "our story", mission, vision and values as well as get to know you better!



If interested in attending, please contact
Jenny Landowski 262-334-2886 or
director@immanuelwestbend.org

Adopt a Church Garden

What joy it is to look outside and see the beautiful Spring flowers finally popping up around the church; it's a reminder that it's that time of year to start thinking about our church gardens! With our location being in the main area of Downtown West Bend, the beauty of our gardens is a gift to all who go by, and we count on volunteers to help with their upkeep. Currently we have some of the gardens maintained by the same people who have helped in the past, but we could use a few extra hands. If you would be interested in Adopting a Church Garden to tend on your own, or if you would be willing to lend a green thumb to assist one of our other volunteers to co-garden, please let me know.

Thanks for considering! Jenny Landowski 334-2886 or

director@immanuelwestbend.org



Raise Right Gift Cards

Let us help make your shopping, budgeting, dining out, and gift giving easier... Gift Cards for Local Grocers, Gas Stations, Clothing Stores, Online Shopping, Restaurants, and more are available through **Raise Right Gift Cards**. A variety of cards are on hand for immediate purchase, and hundreds of different cards can be ordered on a monthly basis. Raise Right gives us a % of each sale, which benefits our Joyful Journeys Ministries, both India and the COF Shoppe. A member of the India Task Force will have cards available on Sunday mornings; you can find them seated at the table across from the church mailboxes. They can also take your special orders; forms can be found in mailbox # 79. Completed forms with payment made out to Joyful Journeys can be dropped off on Sunday mornings or brought into the main office Monday thru Thursday between 9am-3pm.

Orders this month will be called in on **Monday, April 13th**.

Full Shelf Pantry

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

In support of West Bend's Full Shelf Pantry throughout the month of April, we will be collecting **Canned Fruits, Fruit Cups, Applesauce, and Fruit Snacks**



12 count egg cartons are needed on a monthly basis

Items can be placed in the bins outside the main office, or cash/checks (payable to Immanuel) can be put in your giving envelope with notation designated to Food Pantry.

Any questions see Jenny or Johanna Landowski



Health & Wellness Ministry...

LARGEST FIRST-TIME DRIVE!



Once again, our Immanuel Church family and friends rose to the occasion with their charitable giving, this time it literally came straight from the heart through their generous blood donations!!! Back in December when we hosted our Blood Drive in honor of Pastor Rich, 34 donations of blood were collected, ranking us the “Largest First-Time Drive” during the month of December in the state of Wisconsin!!! Woot-Woot!!!

Thank you,



*from the bottom
of my heart ❤️*

What an incredible achievement and blessing for our community!!! It's also a powerful example of how one drive can make a tremendous impact in saving lives!
So, on that note, read on...



Hope is in *Bloom*



Donate Blood

Immanuel UCC Blood Drive

Blood supplier for Froedtert, Aurora, & other area hospitals

Monday

April 20

1:00 PM - 6:30 PM



LOCATION:

Immanuel United Church of Christ
501 Walnut Street, West Bend

WATERPARK GIVEAWAY:

Summer will be here soon! Donate and receive a coupon for up to 4 FREE outdoor water park passes to Mt. Olympus, while supplies last.

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT:

Appointments are highly encouraged. Secure your spot by visiting the link below, scan the QR code, or call 877.232.4376.

tinyurl.com/IUCC420



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS...

Esteve Redolad and Rebecca Kellogg - Chaplain Esteve first connected with Immanuel Church last summer when Pastor Rich went on medical leave; we were grateful to have him pulpit supply quite often during that 6 month stretch as he quickly became part of our community. Esteve and Rebecca were united in marriage here in November and in the beginning of 2026, they expressed a desire to "officially" join our church family; the two of them, along with daughter Elysia, were welcomed in on March 29th. Esteve has his Master's Degree in Theology and is currently working as a chaplain for Cedar Community, in his free time he enjoys writing, doing paint by number, and playing his guitar. Rebecca is a middle school teacher at La Causa Charter School in Milwaukee, she enjoys reading, herbalism and lesson planning. Elysia is in 6th grade and is excited to be raising chickens in the hopes of selling their eggs. Please join us in welcoming them into our fold.



Description of the Project: A photographic project paired with personal biographies, documenting individuals rebuilding their lives after incarceration, homelessness, addiction, and other forms of displacement. It centers dignity, resilience, and the complexity of recovery through lived experience and visual storytelling.

Presentation Info: West Bend Community Library - 630 Poplar St, West Bend, WI 53095. Friday May 8th at 10am in the 1st floor main reading room. The Friends of the Library will put out Free Coffee (from The Hub) and Cookies, while supplies last.

I will be doing a 20-minute presentation describing how the project started and evolved into Recovering Humans. There will be 14 participant portraits and stories hanging in the libraries reading room for people to see and read. They will be there from May 1st until June 11th, 2026.

Hope you can make it!

Marty Keeyes ("Friend" of Immanuel Church)

Joyful Journeys, Inc.~

An outreach ministry founded and operated
by members of Immanuel Church.

OUR MISSION: *to establish and or operate programs and facilities that will assist impoverished and needy people whose lives are challenged by current life circumstances, by helping to provide for their immediate basic needs and to bring them hope and promise for a brighter future.*

Matthew 25:40 "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Circle of Friends

Bundles of Undies,

Sacks of Socks

Easter Baskets

Thank you to everyone who contributed Sacks of Socks and Bundles of Undies to our Easter Baskets; your donations will certainly be appreciated by the individuals visiting the Circle of Friends Shoppe!



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, EVEN IF IT'S AWKWARD!

A special "thank you" to Washington/Ozaukee Public Health Department for hosting a collection of feminine hygiene products for our recent **Period Poverty** campaign! We are so grateful for the extra support from various organizations within our community!

If you would like to learn more about how you can help, join a team of sorters, or volunteer at the Shoppe, feel free to contact Jenny Landowski at 262-334-2886 or director@immanuelwestbend.org



INDIA



Additional Expenses in the month of April...

- Children's Bible School ~ \$900

If you would like to cover, or contribute to additional expenses, you can do so by cash/check made out to Joyful Journeys or pay online through our secure website

<https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/>

Thank you for prayerfully considering this.

Summer Repairs

Like many things, when lumped all together it can be daunting, but when broken down it's much more manageable, this is certainly the case with our yearly summer repairs at the Marshall School in India! Soon our students will exit for a break after completing their final semester and the daily wage workers will enter to begin the task of repairing and painting, among other things, in order to maintain the overall wellness of our school structure.

The total for this is \$1,200. 😊 😊

Breakdown it looks like this...

Minor building repairs - \$100

Painting interior - \$100

Painting exterior - \$100

Painting blackboards - \$100

Plumbing repairs - \$100

Pesticide - \$100

Desk & Bench repairs - \$100

Electrical fixtures - \$100

Drainage cleanout - \$100

Mason work - \$100

Window repair - \$100

Miscellaneous - \$100

Please consider contributing to the greater cause by covering the cost of a smaller expense. 🙏

Simply designate on your giving envelope or make note in your online donation; we would really appreciate your help!

Questions? Contact Jenny at director@immanuelwestbend.org

Donate: <https://joyfuljourneys-inc.org/>



For more information about supporting our efforts, contact Jenny at director@immanuelwestbend.org or 262-334-2886 or talk to an India Task Force member.



Wednesday April 1st

2:30pm - PEO

Maundy Thursday April 2nd

1pm – 3pm - COF Shoppe

5:45pm - Washinton County
sports Center

7pm - Maundy Thursday Service



Good Friday April 3rd

Noon - Good Friday Service

6:30pm - NA



Saturday April 4th

6:45am - Youth Mr. Bob's Under
the Bridge

10am–Noon - COF Shoppe

Easter Communion

Sunday April 5th Family Worship

9am and 10:30am - Worship
NO - J.A.M. Time, CORE,
SHINE, FAMILY WORSHIP,
& Sharing Today's Word



Monday April 6th

Office closed

Tuesday April 7th

Wednesday April 8th

Thursday April 9th

10am - SonShine Gals

5:00pm - Church & Ministry

6:00pm - Consistory

Friday April 10th

6:30pm - NA

Saturday April 11th

10am–Noon - COF Shoppe

Sunday April 12th

9am and 10:30am - Worship

10:30am - J.A.M. Time, CORE,
SHINE, & Sharing Today's Word

11:45am - Inquirers Luncheon

Monday April 13th

*Memorial Service for
Marilyn Stier*

9:30-11:15am ~ Visitation

11:30am ~ Service

Noon ~ Luncheon

10:30am - Boundaries

4:15pm - Citizen Advocates

6pm - Health & Wellness
meeting

Tuesday April 14th

10am -6pm - COF Open House

Wednesday April 15th

5pm - 7pm - COF Shoppe

Thursday April 16th

6pm - Wise Guys

Friday April 17th

6:30pm - NA

Saturday April 18th

10am–Noon - COF Shoppe

6pm - Youth Lock-in



Sunday April 19th

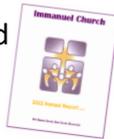
Youth - Lock-in

9am and 10:30am - Worship

10:30am - J.A.M. Time, CORE, SHINE, & Sharing Today's Word

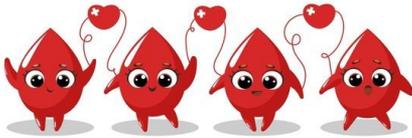
11:45 - Spring Annual meeting

1pm - Indivisible West Bend



Monday April 20th

1pm – 6:30pm - Blood Drive



Tuesday April 21st

6:30pm - PEO

Wednesday April 22nd

Thursday April 23rd

10am - SonShine Gals

Friday April 24th

6:30pm - NA

Saturday April 25th

Sunday April 26th

9am and 10:30am - Worship

10am – Noon - Ministry Fair

10:30am - J.A.M. Time, CORE, & SHINE

No - Sharing Today's Word

Monday April 27th

1pm - Prayer Shawl Group

Tuesday April 28th

Wednesday April 29th

Thursday April 30th



Monday – Thursday 9am – 3pm



Altar Flowers

Would you like to help beautify our worship services by donating flowers for the altar? You can celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or place them in memory of a loved one. The **sign-up sheet** is posted outside of Pastor Rich's office.

Please **fill out an order form** and return it with a check for \$30.00 to the church office. After the second service, the sponsoring member can take the flowers home.

This month our flowers have been donated by:

April 5th:

In celebration Easter!
Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

April 12th: Emily Frederick

In celebration of Fay Rose's Birthday

April 19th: Karen Zachow

In honor of family

April 26th: Georgia Kletti

In memory of my wonderful husband ART
on what would have been our 56th anniversary

Thank you to all who shared Easter flowers with us

Doug & Jean Stewart

In memory of Lawrence & Marjorie Stewart & Walter & Ione Nagel

Teri Sigalff

Marion Sieglaff & Dan Aukfer

Charlene & Stuart Swanson

In memory of David, Esther & Dale, Curtis, Fred & Jean Kick, Elsie & Leroy Anderson, & in celebration of Christ has risen!

June Sommerfeld

In celebration of the birthday of my son Lee on Easter Sunday this year and the 21st birthday of my granddaughter Alexa on April 8th

Curtis & Jeanne Forester

In celebration of Easter and Spring

Rich & Bonnie Gerner

Jackie Nieman

In celebration of new life

Patricia Love

In celebration of Joyful Journeys Ministry

Louise Aplin

In honor of Beverly Mark and her music

Susan Kist

In memory of my parents Susan & Henry Crysdale & in honor of my son Jacob and his family

Dave & Lynn Hammen

In memory of loved ones.

Mary Jo & Kent

In honor of the Murphy Family

Sophie Landowski

In celebration of my wonderful family

Ed & Judy Krepsky

In honor of Beverly Mark for the past 5 years of music leadership & for Louise Aplin and her many years of faithful service in the sound booth

Karen Zachow

In honor of my grandchildren

Jim Morrison

In memory of Mona Anderson

Schleif family

In memory of Davie Sue and in celebration of our church family

Jenny Landowski

In memory of our beloved "Big Bob" and "Papa"

Birthdays for April

Evan Patten 1st

Laura Herrick 3rd

Jennifer Schleif 4th

Scott Gluck 5th

Ian House 7th

Evan Mastenbrook 8th

Beverly Mark 11th

Levi Soener 11th

Christian Peterson 13th

Jacob Soener 13th

Kathy Olsen 14th

Sara Depies 15th

Becky Kay 15th

Aurora Swanson 15th

Allen Tackes 15th

Tom Thielke 15th

Emma Gutjahr 16th

Fay Rose 16th

Sandy Michaels 17th

Jim Morrison 17th

Eileen TenPas 18th

Dave Hammen 20th

Max Sommerfeld 20th

Brenda Kreis 21st

Sandy Luft 21st

Steve Miller 21st

Elise Susnik 21st

Darleen Baerenwald 23rd

Hunter Demmon 25th

Gabriel Salinas 25th

Thea Liebelt 26th

Joyce Bultman 27th

Jeff Otten 27th

John Sancomb 28th

Noah Shaikh 28th



April Birthdays!





Tending the Flock

Please keep our Immanuel Church Family in your thoughts and prayers, specifically those listed below. Contact the church office if you are in need of pastoral care, or would like to be added to the prayer requests.

Yellow Roses:

Darleen Baerenwald, Ronald and Kathleen Diels, DeDe Emory, Maxine French, Doris Hawkins, Carol King, Kathy Komro, Jerry Kuckuk, Orv Larsen, Judy Muelling, Bill Myers, Nan Myers, and Joan Stenstrup.

Health Concerns:

Darleen Baerenwald, Julie Feit, Steve Feit, Jessica Frederick, Bruce Kapanke, Carol King, Susan Kist, Jerry Kuckuk, Bill Myers, Anne Mari Peters, Dave Wolff, and Kris Zulick.

Those of us who are suffering from depression and/or addiction:

Serving in the military:

Jackson Raad and his wife Carlyn Raad, Rebecca Gerard Shanahan and her husband, David.

Continuing their education:

Brett Bartoszewicz, Abby Frederick, Kathryn Hartley, Kendra Kapanke, Chase Mastenbrook, Julia Raad, Madison Schmitt, and Adam Vincent.

Hospice Care

Bev Walter

Deaths

Marilyn Stier - 3-27-2026

Family Loss

Paul Stier – Wife ~ Marilyn Stier

Prayer Requests

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ~Philippians 4:6

If you have a special prayer that you would like lifted up on your behalf, feel free to fill out one of the Prayer Request forms located on the Offering Alter and deposit it into the Giving Church or email it to Jenny at director@immanuelwestbend.org.

The SonShine Gals will respectfully include your joys and concerns within their prayers.

Thank you for serving & letting your light shine this month!

GREETERS:

- April 5 9:00am Carol Argabright, Pat Sommer
10:30am Dave & Lynn Hammen
- April 12 9:00am Carol Argabright & KC Laycock
10:30am Barb Seefeldt & Lavonda Johnson
- April 19 9:00am Max Sommerfeld
10:30am Mary Ellen Dodge, & Mary Jo Norgel
- April 26 9:00am Nancy Naab, Esther Kohler
10:30am STILL NEED SOMEONE

USHERS:

- April 5 9:00am Max Sommerfeld, Rich Gerner
10:30am Gene Kreis
- April 12 9:00am Michael Bath, Rachel Gumm
10:30am Elaine Radzinski
- April 19 9:00am Mike Soener, Patricia Love
10:30am Ben & Ashley Russell
- April 26 9:00am Wayne & Rosemary Seideman
10:30am Joe Halfman

READERS:

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| April 5 | 9am Evelyn Lutter | 10:30am Elaine Radzinski |
| April 12 | 9am KC Laycock | 10:30am Rachel Gumm |
| April 19 | 9am Carol Merrifield | 10:30am Jane Kosednar |
| April 26 | 9am Jan Nesladek | 10:30am Chris Witt |

COFFEE MAKERS:

- April 5 Bonnie Gerner
April 12 Jim & Anne Mari Peters
April 19 Eric Christie
April 26 Mary Demmon

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

- April 5 Adult Choir
April 12 Larry Wheelock
April 19 Handbell Ensemble
April 26 Larry Wheelock

Fellowship Hour:

- April 5 Goodie Gang
April 12 STILL NEED SOMEONE
April 19 Carol Argabright
April 26 Ministry Fair

Communion Servers: April 5

- 9:00 – Liz & Jason Ratzburg
Floater – Jan Nesladek
10:30 – Heather & Shaun Tanner

Staying connected with Immanuel through social media...

Website – <https://www.immanuelwestbend.org/>

Facebook – Immanuel United Church of Christ

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/c/ImmanuelUCCWestBend>

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

501 Walnut Street, West Bend, WI 53095 (262-334-2886)

Email address: office@immanuelwestbend.org

Immanuel Website: www.immanuelwestbend.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ImmanuelWestBend/

MINISTERS: All of us

PASTOR: Reverend Richard Vincent pastor@immanuelwestbend.org

PASTORAL ASSISTANT/DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES: Jenny Landowski
director@immanuelwestbend.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Johanna Landowski office@immanuelwestbend.org

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Karen Zachow finance@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Mitch Schleif
excited4jam@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES and CORE LEADER: Johanna Landowski
youthgroup@immanuelwestbend.org & confirmation@immanuelwestbend.org

DIRECTOR OF SHINE: Elise Susnik shine@immanuelwestbend.org

ORGANIST/ MUSIC DIRECTOR: Beverly Mark bevbeemark@gmail.com

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Larry Wheelock llwheels@icloud.com

WORSHIP TEAM LEADER: Bradley Mitchell bradleybmitchell@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR: Terry Christie christieeric35@gmail.com

CUSTODIAN: Sophia Landowski

CHILDCARE: Tobias Halfman

CONSISTORY ELDERS:

Amy Schmitt – President, Christopher Arndt-Vice-President,
Carol Argabright- Secretary, and Mitchell Schleif

CONSISTORY DEACONS:

Ben Russell – Treasurer, Mike Soener – Property, Joe Halfman,
Bradley Mitchell, Charlene Swanson, and Kent Scheuerell

Finance Committee:

Karen Zachow - Financial Secretary, Ben Russell – Treasurer, Julie Feit,
Tama Gluck, Dave Hammen, and Doug Stewart,

Immanuel's Team

