

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Saints at Immanuel...



It appears to me that people of faith have always known that spiritual struggles accompany our discussions about money. And we see this in the many references that the Bible makes to this subject. Money may be a gift, but as 1 Timothy famously notes, "the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil."

And then there is Jesus. Jesus talked a lot about money. He was a companion to both the rich and the poor, and he challenged both to act on what was really important in their lives. Jesus seemed to know our struggles with both the potential and the dangers of wealth, and he knew about putting it in a good perspective. "No one can serve two masters," he said. "Either you will hate one and love the other, or you will be loyal to the one and have contempt for the other. You cannot serve both god and wealth." (Matthew 6:24)

The principal danger, I think, of the love of money, even if we feel we don't have much of it, is that it can make us forgetful --- forgetful of who we are, of what our responsibilities to others are, and forgetful of God. And that forgetfulness can lead to misplaced trust.

So, in response to these concerns, this Fall I am hoping to offer a 6-week course entitled, "Saving Grace." We will examine many of the myths of our consumer culture as it relates to money, and then contrast them with the faithful way toward money and how we spend and interact with it. I believe we genuinely want to follow God's heart in the issue of money in our lives, and so we will get very practical in how to do just that. We'll use Biblical principles and tools and apply them to our everyday financial lives. **NONE OF YOUR FINANCIAL INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED!**

I hope to start this program in early October so listen for future announcements about the course starting up! We will save you a seat and I believe your life will be changed by what God has for us to learn together!

In the meantime,.... Enjoy the summer and do take the opportunity to enjoy some of God's beautiful creation around our area!

I hope to see you in Church,

Pastor Jack



INSIDE...

Youth/ Family News
Ministries News



THIS AND THAT FROM PASTOR JACK.....

Here are some things to think about and maybe even mark your calendar to attend...

1. **NAME TAGS...** Please remember to wear your name tag each Sunday when you enter the Sanctuary. Everyone appreciates hearing their own name and by wearing your name tag you make this so much easier. If you need a name tag, please put a note in Pam's mailbox across from the office. Thanks!
2. **KIDZ CLUB...** is in recess for the summer months but we do have a kids activity table in the front of the Sanctuary with activities for the young ones as well as the weekly Children's Moments during worship!
3. **Thanks to all** who worked so hard on this year's Church Picnic! We had a wonderful time (in spite of the weather) and the pictures on our webpage show that with many smiling faces! Thanks to the Fellowship team and all who helped to make this day a success!
4. **We continue to deliver** a meal once each month to our shut-ins and those who could use reminding that their church loves and cares about them. If you know of someone who could use a meal delivery and visit, please talk to the church office!
5. Our **2024 Vacation Bible School** program will take place on Wednesday evenings throughout August. These 4 sessions will see us following the theme, Food Truck Party and Miss Lorie has lots of fun activities planned for all ages. Make sure you register on the church website to be a part of the fun!
6. Did you know we have a great group of dedicated folks here who serve as **FAITHFUL FRIENDS?** These wonderful people maintain contact with their assigned "friends" each month and are so important to help keep all our congregation connected. If you'd like to become a FAITHFUL FRIEND speak with Pastor Jack today.
7. We will be hosting once again a **mission team from Pennsylvania** who will be coming to our area to do some mission work on the Onondaga Nation. We look forward to having these folks stay here during the week of July 15th and we will roll out the Immanuel welcome mat to make them feel at home!

8. Pastor Jack



Kidz Club has had a busy couple of months. Besides our usual lesson, learning, crafts, experiments and games, we also planted flowers in the planter outside the Nursery School entrance and planted the marigolds we grew from seed out next to the patio. They are almost ready to bloom! We spent most of May painting some great pieces of art with the help of Mr. Gribble. Thank You Mr. Gribble!!

On Youth Celebration Sunday three kids received Bibles and everyone got a certificate along with a Thank You to Adie for all her help this year in Kidz Club. After Kidz Club on Youth Sunday we all enjoyed the great food and fun games at the annual Church Picnic. If you see one of the kids, ask them what would happen if the egg fell off the spoon!

Kidz Club will be taking a pause over the summer, but don't forget to register soon for Vacation Bible School which will run every Wednesday evening in August from 6pm to 8:30pm. There will be a meal and lesson, crafts and games. Registration information can be found on the Church website. We hope to see all the kids there and we will resume Sunday morning Kidz Club in September.

Have a great and safe Summer!
Lorie Wood
Faith Formation Leader



P.S. We are continuing to welcome any help you can provide for Vacation Bible School.



On Sunday, June 9, we celebrated the graduations of three of our young people:

- Joey Paoli from high school
- Ben Paoli from SUNY Binghamton
- Alexa Paventi from OCC

During this time, we were also able to award Joey Paoli with the Gordon Williams Scholarship to assist with his future college plans.





MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT!

Our "fun" fund raiser that benefits Disaster Recovery Missions is back for the 15th year at beautiful Fairmount Glen!

Please save Saturday morning August 10th for the opportunity to support this mission and show off your putting skills.

Details to follow in the coming weeks. Shelley Dawson Smith @ 315-727-0671.



M2 Update

April 2024 M2 Donations

Total Donated	\$1,493.00	
Missions	\$497.67	33.33%
Maintenance/Trustees	\$995.33	66.66%

May 2024 M2 Donations

Total Donated	\$2,613.00	
Missions	\$871.00	33.33%
Maintenance/Trustees	\$1,742.00	66.66%

Due to the generosity of so many people the Trustees are able to maintain our beautiful church and the Mission team is able to help our friends in our community. Any questions please ask Shelley Dawson Smith. Thank you.



Garage Sale

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Immanuel's Annual Garage Sale and because of all the help (set up & take down tables, picked up items at people's home & delivered them to the church, priced items, packed up unsold items, delivered unsold items to Goodwill & Rescue Mission, straightened tables during the sale, was a cashier, donated items and (even purchased items) we made \$5,511.25.

Shelley Dawson Smith



ELECTRONIC SIGN



The trustees would like to thank everyone for their contribution to our new electronic sign. Through your generosity we raised just under \$17,000 for the total cost of the sign.



Question? What is tall, made of wood and is in the church's sanctuary? Give up?

Answer: An outhouse.

Question? What is needed when you're using an outhouse?

Answer: I'm pretty sure you all know the answer (no it's not a Sears catalog).

Question? Did you know that toilet paper cannot be purchased if a person is on SNAP (formerly food stamps).

The mission team is undertaking a project during July to collect not only toilet paper but other items that cannot be purchased with SNAP.

Items that are really needed: Bar soap, toothpaste, tissues & toilet paper.

Items that are also needed: Children's diapers, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner & paper towels.

The items donated to the **Outhouse Project** will be given to St. Joseph's Food Pantry who will give these items to our friends in Memphis, Camillus and Warners.

Let's fill up the outhouse!
Shelley Dawson Smith
Mission Team Chairperson



Chair Yoga Class Tuesdays at 9:30 Fireside Room

Barb's Chair Yoga Class will continue through the summer until mid August. (but no class on July 2.) The class focuses on building strength, balance and flexibility through gentle stretching, mostly done from a seated position, with some standing. Bonus! Barb starts class with prayer, and a brief discussion on why certain foods are good for you.... Wear comfortable clothing, bring a set of hand weights and water, and be ready to enjoy getting our bodies into better condition! Anyone is welcome to join the class. Cost? No charge, but any donations will be used to buy hand weights for the class.



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."



*July
August
2024*

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
	*In Person or Facebook Live during 9am worship
Kidz Club	Resumes in September
Office Hours	Monday-Thursday by appointment
Handicapped accessible	

Please join us!