

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Greetings to the Saints at Camillus!

As I write this we are six weeks into "social distancing" and the NY PAUSE program. And these are uncertain days for sure.

I wish I could be writing about the great events on our calendars as we finish this school year and prepare to move into the time of summer. I wish I could be telling you about the upcoming Annual Conference and the General Conference that will answer all the questions many in our churches have about our future as a denomination. I wish I could be talking about recognizing our graduates and helping our young people prepare for summer camp. But unfortunately, all those things will be greatly changed this year. So rather than write about those things to come... let me write about the current situation (which you probably know all too well!).

You know that because of the Covid-19 virus our church building is currently closed as we follow the guidelines of our state and local officials. But you should also know that the work of the church goes on! Our Administrative Council and Finance Teams have met and acted to try to secure our ministry by applying for a SBA loan offered as a part of the economic stimulus package. Our Trustees have continued to work to safeguard our facility even as it is closed and our church staff has been working (perhaps harder than ever before) remotely. Some of this has required learning new and different ways of doing things. A telephone tree has been working to support those without computer access and individual members have been assisting others in securing basic needs and helping with deliveries. We have worshipped each week on our website and your pastors have provided pastoral care in new ways. You see... the work of God's church called Immanuel has gone on!

And while we do not know as this is written when we will be able to reopen the building for worship and other uses, we know that God's work will go on. It will take a lot of flexibility on everyone's part but ministry will continue! Thanks for your flexibility and ability to try to adapt as things change so much.

I hope soon to be welcoming you back for worship and all the other activities that are so much a part of the life of Immanuel. And until that day know that our ministry is not closed... because the work of God will not be stopped... even by a virus!

Keep the faith and keep smiling!
Pastor Jack Keating

Keep the Faith

INSIDE...

Youth/ Family News
Ministries News

Hello all!

I hope you have all been adjusting to the many changes this world has thrown at us over the past couple of months. I have still been hard at work making sure there is still a child friendly lesson plan for you all! While they are not quite the normal worship your child might be useful, I also have been including some at home activities they are able to do.

To view the video, you just need to go to the church website and look under the "Worship Online" tab and scroll until you find the week you are looking for!

In more personal news, a family of foxes have moved in across the street! There are five little baby foxes and we watch them every day. They are quite playful!

I hope to be with you all again soon!

Blessings,
Ashley Davis
Kidz Club Coordinator



Applications for the
2020 Gordon
Williams Scholarship
may be downloaded

from our website www.churchofthebells.org.
Completed applications must be turned in to the church no later than May 29, 2020.



We have camperships available for the youth of Immanuel to attend summer camp. Please give your camper's name, the camp he/she is attending and the dates attending to Pastor Pam as soon as you are able to register. If you have a greater financial need, please let Pastors Jack or Pam know and we will work with you.

Connect with us!

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. The children's message is here too!

Every day 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.

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.

Thank You!

THANK YOU from SPRC

We have all heard that " Church is the people". I googled that and found this.. When Jesus said, "... I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18), He was saying the Church—His chosen people—would not die out. It would be alive—a warm and caring body of believers striving to serve God, do His work and support each other.

We are so blessed at Immanuel to have an amazing staff that are working so hard to adapt to the challenges and changes of this difficult time in history. Thank you to Jack, Pam, Ashley, Lisa and Dan for the online services. The daily email message is wonderful medicine that we can all benefit from ...a dose of positivity.

Knowing they are available and working to " do His work and support each other" is so important at this time of social distancing.

Our staff is helping to keep us an "alive—a warm and caring body of believers " .

Thank you also to the wonderful volunteers that are caring for many behind the scenes workings of our church.

Praying that "the Church" will be healthy and blessed,

~Anita Joy Hall

Lenten Mission Project: Update

I pray that this finds you and your family healthy and safe. Often I have spoken of this congregation's incredible generosity. But during this time of uncertainty and financial strife, I wasn't sure we would be able to be as charitable. Well, once again, the kindheartedness of this congregation has left me speechless. To date, we have raised over **\$1,000.00** from our Lenten collection, more than we collected last year. All of that money will be used to help pay down outstanding lunch account balances for students at West Genesee High School.

In addition to your financial support, I took **six** full carloads of groceries to St. Cecilia's Food Pantry in Solvay. They couldn't have been more grateful. We at Immanuel are the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. Thank you for bringing the Gospel to life! *"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"* ~Carol Doucette



United Methodist Church Special Sundays

Our church has 6 special collections during the year to support various ministries both locally and worldwide. There are currently 3 opportunities to support these missions.

March UMCOR collection takes all of the money donated to pay for the administration of all United Methodist Committee on Relief projects. This means that when you donate to an UMCOR project, all of the money goes to that project.

April Native American Ministries collection is to support scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians, strengthens and develops Native American ministries and communities, both urban and rural, and supports Native American outreach at the annual conference level.

June Peace with Justice collection funds programs that advocate for peace and justice in the US and around the world. To make a donation to any or all of these special collections, please make your check out to Immanuel UMC and write the special Sunday in the memo section of the check. Thank you for your generosity!

January 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$3,091.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,556.86
Trustees	\$267.07
Missions	\$267.07

February 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$4,889.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,556.86
Trustees	\$1,166.07
Missions	\$1,166.07

March 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$1,246.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	\$(1,318.46)

In March there were not sufficient funds collected to make distributions to either Missions or Trustees nor make the entire mortgage payment. The shortage for the mortgage payment will be temporarily advanced from mission team funds.

On behalf of the Finance Team I would like to thank you for supporting 3M in these difficult times.

Any questions please call Shelley Dawson Smith @ 315- 487-1290.



Plant a salt pot! Our salt pots are in need of flowers for the year. On behalf of the Trustees, you can contact Sandra Van Epps at 315-399-5117 or vaneps49@gmail.com if you would like to reserve a salt pot to plant. We would like to have them all planted by Memorial Day weekend.



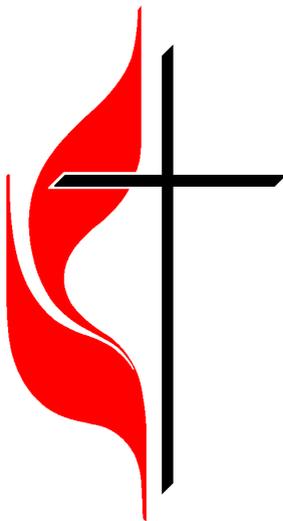
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Our Mission
"To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world."



**All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!**
Acts 2.4

May / June 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 and request removal.



Pastor	Pastor Jack Keating
Phone	(315) 487-1171
Email	churchofthebells@gmail.com
Website	www.churchofthebells.org
Worship	online
Kidz Club	via email and website
Office Hours	via email or phone
Handicapped accessible	

Please join us!