

**PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

**Let's meet at my house Sunday before the game! --- GOD**

As we prepare for the months of November and December it is fitting, I think that we pause once again to think about our relationship with God. Here's what we are reminded of in Hebrews: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:25)

To have a close, rewarding relationship with God, you don't have to be perfect. But there is one requirement: You must be genuinely committed to the relationship. That includes spending some time getting to know God and God's family.

Just as a person can't be "mostly married" or "somewhat pregnant," you cannot have a casual acquaintance with God. A relationship with the all-living, all-powerful Creator of the universe just doesn't work that way. And part of building a meaningful relationship with God is spending time at God's house with God's people, the Church. Here, you can worship God, learn how to live more effectively, hear how God is working in the lives of others, be supported by people who love God and are committed to you for that very reason.

If you choose to avoid church, will God still love you? Of course. God loved you long before you were even aware of God – and before the concept of church was even invented. But if you truly want to grow close to God, to know God as a friend, you need to spend some time at God's house.

So, what do you say? Will we be seeing you at God's house this Sunday?



November and December offer us a time to reexamine our individual relationships with God. We stop to look at our commitment of time, talents, and treasures and then we offer thanks to God for all the blessings God has showered on us! And then we get to journey through Advent to arrive at the manger on Christmas! What a great time of the year to be here in God's house!

We'll save a seat for you in our very clean and safe Sanctuary as we move into this time of celebration! But if you can't join us for any reason you can still worship with us via the church Face Book page and YouTube channel. These vehicles have allowed us to keep ministry going during these pandemic times. Now, as vaccinations increase, booster shots are offered, and it appears that vaccinations for our children are getting very close we hope to welcome even more of you back into the Sanctuary for worship!

"O Come, let us adore Him..."

Pastor Jack



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### THIS AND THAT FROM PASTOR JACK.....

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

The beginning of the Kidz Club School year started off wonderful! Kick off day had 10 youth learning all about the word of God. This month we are gearing up for our advent learning! December will see some themed Sundays in Kidz Club!

Week 1: Pajama Day! Don't worry about getting up early to get dressed, just come as you are!

Week 2: Green Day! Wear as much green as you can find!

Week 3: Superhero Day! Wear your favorite superhero t-shirts!

Week 4: Christmas! Dress up as santa, or an elf! Even Mrs. Claus!

We are still looking for Volunteers to help teach in the room, so any interested parties can email Pam or myself to let us know your availability!

Ashley Davis, Kidz Club Coordinator

1. Our Election Day Turkey Dinner is offered on November 2<sup>nd</sup>! It's another "Drive Thru" dinner and we have lots of needs for helpers and dinner buyers!
2. Our fall Stewardship campaign "PLUGGED IN" will be in high gear in November! Watch for your mailing about this exciting opportunity.
3. Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm is our annual Charge Conference with our DS, Rev. Nola Anderson. Ad. Council members please plan to attend.
4. Advent begins on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>! You'll hear Special Music, see candles, and get to experience a wonderful Immanuel Christmas once again this year.
5. We will offer an Advent Study this year entitled, *Almost Christmas*. Listen for announcements about our meeting times coming out in November.
6. Don't forget to wear your name tag each Sunday morning! Everyone appreciates hearing their own name and by wearing your name tag you make this much easier. If you need a nametag, please put a note in Pam's mailbox across from the office. Thanks!

### ANNUAL ELECTION DAY TURKEY DINNER Tuesday, November 2 Starting at 3pm until sold out DRIVE-THROUGH ONLY



**Menu:** Turkey, stuffing, potatoes, corn, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, roll, homemade pie

**PRICES:** Adults \$13.00, Kids (6-12) \$6.00, 5 & under free.

David Stanton, chairman of the Turkey Dinner



The November/December edition of the Upper Room is available now on the table outside of the church office. Please help yourself and spend some devotional time with God.



Thank you for your prayers and caring during the time of my sister's death. God bless you.

~Marge Becraft



♪♪♪ Guess What? SINGING HAS RESUMED!!!!!! ♪♪♪ And beginning Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, the Choir will begin rehearsals for the CHRISTMAS CANTATA to be presented at the 10:00 am hour on December 19<sup>th</sup> and portions Christmas Eve. Can't sing with the choir on a regular basis but would like to sing during Advent and Christmas, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE!! Choir Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 6:40PM to 7:30PM and Bell rehearsals are earlier on Thursdays from 5:45PM to 6:30 Come for one or both choirs! Invite your friends!!!! Please reach out and let me know if you're interested in participating!!!!

~Lisa Miller, Choir Director

#### Mark your calendars:

Dec. 21 at 7pm Longest Night Worship Service

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

4pm Worship

7:30 pm Worship

Dec. 26 Worship at 10 am ONLY



## Ministries



**Angel Tree** The Mission Team invites you to share God's love for children by taking an angel gift tag from the Christmas tree in the Narthex and purchasing a gift in the amount of \$15 to \$20. The gifts will be given to the children from Hillside Family Agencies and the Syracuse Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program. The Hillside Family will be an Amazon online purchase. Go to [hillside.com](http://hillside.com) and click on SpecialSanta2021, sign in and find CNY Therapeutic Foster Care & Family Program. When you choose your gift add to cart and check out. I'm asking those comfortable with computers to choose Hillside.com for your donation. The BB/BS program will be gifts brought into church. Please wrap the gift, attach the angel tag and return the gift to the tree by Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Angela Keida with any questions. Also when you take an angel please write your name, phone number and the tag # on the sheet.



**Mitten Tree:** The mitten tree for our friends in need will be put up Nov 21st thru Dec 12th in the Narthex. Please bring in new gloves, scarves, hats, mittens and socks and also gently used children's coats, snow pants, and children's boots. Last year through your generosity we collected 365 items.

Any questions please see Shelley Dawson Smith.



## DOOR SPRAYS

It's that time of year again! Please support the Mission Team by buying a beautiful door spray for \$20.00. Orders will be taken on Nov 7th and Nov 14th in the Narthex.

However, if you are attending church service via social media and would like a door spray please call me and we can figure something out.

We will be making the door sprays on Saturday Nov 20th starting at 9:00a.m. and any help would be appreciated even if you can only help for an hour.

Any questions please see or call Shelley Dawson Smith at 315-727-0671.



## Ongoing Outreach Opportunities

All year long we collect the following items:

Used Eyeglasses go to the Camillus Lions Club, who in turn packages them up and sends them to Africa for those in need.

We collect gently used shoes of all kinds to go to Ralph the Shoe Guy who in turns refurbishes them and donates them to the Rescue Mission.

We collect non-perishable food items for the food pantry located at St. Joseph's Church in Camillus.



## 2021 Holiday Craft Show

Friday Nov. 12 4-8pm

Saturday Nov. 13 9am-3pm



CRAFTERS & CUSTOMERS that make a **Non – Perishable** or **MONETARY DONATION** to the **Food Pantry**, will have the opportunity to have their name chosen for one of our "Crafters Gift Drawing".



## CWS CROP

On October 17th the Greater Syracuse Hunger Walk took place at Onondaga Lake. It was a cold, windy and rainy day but Immanuel's team of Jane Monnell, Amy Scicchitano, Peg Webster, Shelley Dawson Smith, Pastor Jack, Erin, Chris & Joey Paoli and Penny the dog did our best. Unfortunately the inclement weather persisted so we weren't able to walk the entire 3 miles because we were cold, wet and our sneakers were very soggy but we made a great effort! At the end of the walk we were treated to a snack and bottle of water by Liverpool 1st UMC which was very kind of them.

I'm happy to say that Immanuel exceeded it's goal of \$1,500.00 because of the fund raising efforts of the team members and also Barb & Gary Merckel. Thanks to everyone who contributed; your donation of **\$2,234.00** will help fund nine local agencies that feed and ministers to the people in our community.

Thank you everyone!

Shelley Dawson Smith



## 3M update:

### August 2021 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$1,519.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	<b>\$(1,045.46) *</b>

### September 2021 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$2,563.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,564.46
Shortage	<b>\$(1.46) *</b>

\*The funds collected in August and September were insufficient to make the full mortgage payment nor make distributions to the Trustees or Missions. The shortage in the mortgage payments were temporarily advanced from Mission team funds.



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."*



## ***November/December 2021***

We wish to be good stewards of both financial and environmental resources. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email us at [churchofthebells@gmail.com](mailto:churchofthebells@gmail.com) and request removal.



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Worship

Sundays 8:30 AND

10am In Person or Facebook Live

Kidz Club

Sundays at 10am

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, by appointment

Handicapped accessible

*Please join us!*