

HELP PUT THE "MERRY" IN MERRY CHRISTMAS! We are still asking for Christmas gifts for the children and teens of those families who are helped by the Glen-Ed Food Pantry. You can bring new, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages until Sunday, December 17th. Teens are difficult to buy for, and the Pantry does not receive many donations for them. We are suggesting that Cardinals/Blues t-shirts, sweatshirts, or gift cards to local merchants would be a good gift for a teenager. We suggest that if you donate a gift card, that it be handed to Don or Evelyn Schaake or brought to the church office.

POINSETTIAS: We have placed our order for poinsettias, and since we had to order them in groups of 6 from the wholesaler, we still have 2 poinsettias to be spoken for. You can claim one by signing your name on the sheet in the Hospitality Room.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSALS have begun during the Sunday School hour. Additional rehearsals will be held as follows:

- Tuesday, December 5, 6:30– 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 12, 6:30–8:00 pm

The program will be presented on Sunday, December 17th at 10:00 am. Please note that there will be just one service that day at 10:00 am, with Sunday School and Christian Education being held at 9:00 am.

LET'S PLAY TRIVIA! Our Youth Group invites you to join them for an evening of fun with an '80's Trivia Night on Saturday, December 9. Doors open at 5:30 pm, and play begins at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$10/person, with 8 people per table. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Hospitality Room.

GREAT RIVERS CHORAL SOCIETY presents "Music for Choir & Brass— Christmas Concert Series" today, December 3, at 3:00 pm at St. John's United Methodist Church, 7372 Marine Road in Edwardsville. The concert is free to the public. A free-will offering will be collected.

THE BEVERLY FARM GIVING TREE is set up in the Hospitality Room. Please consider taking a star ornament from the Christmas tree and purchasing Christmas gifts for a Beverly Farm resident. Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 10th. Beverly Farm, located in Godfrey, is a residential facility that is home to nearly 400 people living with intellectual or developmental disabilities. They thank you for your generosity.

OUR 55+ FELLOWSHIP GROUP will be meeting on Sunday, December 10 at 5:30 pm in the Journey's Inn Room for a Christmas get together. Persons attending should bring finger foods to share with everyone. Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre's, dips, smokies, cheeses and/or more holiday foods. We will enjoy good food and holiday cheer, sing a few songs and share memories of Christmas' past. This year we will share our blessings by donating to the Glen-Ed Pantry. Please bring something to be given to children who are in need of a fun and happy Christmas morning. This can be new toys for all ages, or gift cards geared to the slightly older teens, (please no iTunes cards as the Pantry has a lot of these). Any local merchant gift cards will be appreciated, any amount. Hope to celebrate our 55+ Christmas with you. Any age is welcome to share the evening with us.

TWIGS LUNCH PACKING: Helpers are needed this Thursday beginning at 4:00 pm to pack about 400 lunches to deliver to school nurses, who will discreetly place them in the backpacks of children in need of food for the weekend. We had a great time last month, and hope you will consider joining us. We need packers on Thursday, and drivers to deliver the lunches at 9 am on Friday, December 8.

UMW CHRISTMAS BASKETS will be prepared on Thursday, December 14 beginning at 9:00 am. Help is needed to pack these baskets and deliver them to our members who are 80+ years of age. Speak to Joann Schaake if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

Sunday, December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

- 8:45 am Contemporary Joint Worship
- 9:45 am Sunday School/Adult Education/
Youth Devo/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 am Traditional Worship
- 2:30 pm Sanctuary in Use until 7:30 pm
- 4:00 pm Yoga
- 5:00 pm Youth Group Meeting

Monday, December 4

- 10:00 am TOPS—Journey's Inn Room
- 6:15 pm Ageless Grace
- 7:00 pm Praise Team
- 9:45 pm Panera Pick-Up—May

Tuesday, December 5

- 11:45 am Kiwanis
- 6:00 pm Board of Trustees
- 6:30 pm Children's Christmas Program
Rehearsal until 8:00 pm

Wednesday, December 6

- 9:00 am Journey's Inn Room in use
- 8:00 pm Contemplative Worship

Thursday, December 7

- 4:00 pm TWIGS Lunch Packing
- 6:00 pm Care Team
- 7:00 pm United Methodist Women's
Christmas Party
- 7:00 pm AA
- 8:00 pm PCF Rehearsal

Friday, December 8

- 11:00 am Free Lunch Friday until 1:00 pm
- 6:30 pm Hall in Use—Bridge Club

Saturday, December 9

- 5:30 pm Doors Open for '80's Trivia Night
- 6:00 pm Play begins

Sunday, December 10

2nd Sunday of Advent

- 8:45 am Contemporary Joint Worship
- 9:45 am Sunday School/Adult Education/
Youth Devo/Coffee Fellowship
- 10:45 am Traditional Worship with **Cantata**
- 4:00 pm Yoga
- 5:30 pm 55+ Fellowship

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We seek to be God's people in attitude and action as we:

Experience and Share God's grace joyfully, Live and Teach God's

Immanuel United Methodist Church

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**December 3, 2017
1st Sunday of Advent**

You are invited to join us in this mission ...

Reverend Jackie K. Havis-Shear
Cell Phone: (618) 531-9134

Pastor Kent Schuette
Cell Phone: (618) 334-3575

Today's Worship Leaders:

Greeters: (8:45 am)
Sunday School: (9:45 am)

Greeters: (10:45 am)

Acolytes: (10:45 am)

Liturgist: (10:45 am)
Communion Assistant: (10:45 am)
Instrument Director:
Worship Leader:
Pianist:
Ministers:

Mrs. Jill Winte
Mrs. Kiffon Lewis
Mrs. Jill Winte
Mr. Dan Hodge
Mr. Tom May
Miss Zinnia Allen
Miss Shelly Brase
Mrs. Pat Davis
Mrs. Betty Gengler
Mr. Maurice Mestemacher
Mr. Jordan Grammer
Mrs. Sheila Acuncius
All of Us

Next Week's Worship Leaders:

Greeters: (8:45 am)

Sunday School: (9:45 am)

Greeters: (10:45 am)

Acolyte:

Ms. Paige Brase
Ms. Emily Spitze
Mrs. Kiffon Lewis
Mrs. Jill Winte
Mrs. Linda Potter
Ms. LaVonne Timmins
Owen Potter

Word faithfully. Accept and Serve God's people lovingly.

We invite you to record your attendance on the pad found at the end of the pew.

A nursery is available in the basement level of the church.

Order of Worship **Contemporary** **8:45 am**

Getting Ready for Worship...

Countdown

Opening Music

Welcome & Announcements

Celebration of Worship...

Worship & Praise

Celebration of the Spoken Word...

Prayer

Children's Sermon/Noisy Offering

Community Sharing

Healing Prayer

Scripture—Isaiah 40:1-11

Sermon—"What Shall I Say?" Seminarian Jordan Grammer

Celebration of Gifts...

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Holy Communion

Celebration of Going Forth...

Special Music

Benediction

Closing Song CCLI # 2836520

DID YOU KNOW? ...

...Pringles cans have raised \$10,360 to date (a zero was omitted last week!)

...35 Bows hung last week as loved ones spent the afternoon decorating our church

...Advent Scripture Readings can be found at www.umcdiscipleship.org

We invite you to record your attendance on the pad found at the end of the pew.

A nursery is available in the basement level of the church.

Order of Worship **Traditional** **10:45 am**

WE GATHER TOGETHER...
...to Express Our Unity in Christ

Gathering Music String Ensemble

Ringling of the Bell

Gathering Words

Mary will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet Isaiah: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Immanuel," which means, "God is with us." - Matthew 1:21-22

Prelude

*Call to Worship

L: Comfort my people says your God,

C: The world is waiting for justice and love.

L: No response is a bad response,

C: And silence is violence.

L: Hope comes in the form of our voices,

C: We will speak boldly of hope for the world.

*Hymn—*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* #196

Lighting of the Advent Candle—Hope Lisa Allen Family

*Opening Prayer (unison)

Come, O come Immanuel, "God with us", you are our hope and the bread of life. When darkness looms and injustice reigns, fill our hearts with hope and stir our hands to work. We are your body, the hands of your mercy, the feet of your love, the movement of your justice. When we become fearful, plant courage firmly in our spirits. When pain and suffering are shared, still us to listen to those stories. Do not let our lips be idle, but be our voice as we proclaim the good news of hope for tomorrow and today. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

*Gloria Patri #70

Children's Sermon/Noisy Offering

...to Share With Commitment and Love

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

*Hymn—*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* vs. 1-3, 6 #211

...to Hear the Word of God

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 40:1-11 pp. 627-628 OT

The People Respond

L: Prophetic words for a people in need,

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon—"What Shall I Say?" Seminarian Jordan Grammer

*Hymn of Preparation—*Soon and Very Soon* #706

...to Respond With Commitment and Love

The Invitation Insert

*Passing the Peace

The Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings String Ensemble

The Great Thanksgiving Insert

The Lord's Prayer #895

Holy Communion String Ensemble

Provided at the Communion Table you will find bread, common cup, individual cups, and gluten free wafers

...so We May Go Out and Serve

Announcements

*Benediction

L: We will be a people of hope,

C: We will not be silent this Advent.

L: We will notice each other's humanity,

C: We will share our own stories.

L: We will hold space for the broken,

C: We will speak as God leads us.

*The Postlude

*All who are able, please stand

+ + +

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED to the United Methodist Women's Christmas party this Thursday evening beginning at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a \$5.00 gift exchange.

Celebrating Birthdays this Week: 12/3—Marc Franke; 12/6—Kevin Budden, Mark Emshousen; 12/8—Nadeen Schuette; 12/9—Katie Akers, Jason Prott

Prayer Ministry (+ Indicates weeks—call office to continue another 4 weeks)

+ Family of Tori Carroll, daughter of a co-worker of Shellie Franke and LeeAnn Kane, who passed away this week following I-55 car accident last week

++ Laurie Wolf, friend of Libby Levin, suffering with breast cancer
Mary Winston, friend of many, dealing with health issues

+++ Sharon Koenig, recovering from surgery
Tiana Washington, classmate of Sydney Grammer, bone cancer
Vicki Aufdemberge, cousin of Anita Seehausen, cancer

++++ Marge May, recovering from knee replacement