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# Immanuel's Story

## .... in Prayer Ministry

It was a summer day in July 1996 when I made a heartfelt prayer and witnessed God perform a miracle to accomplish what others had said was impossible.

I had the day off from work and was still in bed when the phone rang; it was staff from the local nursing home asking if I knew where my husband's cousin Wes might be. It was still quite early, and, in my half-awakened state, said that he was probably already at work since he was a postal carrier in the Twin Cities. His father, our uncle Jerry, was in the nursing home and had taken a turn for the worse and had been taken to the hospital after being found unresponsive that morning. It dawned on me later that Wes and his family were vacationing in the Boundary Waters and that I had heard him ask to borrow my sister-in-law's canoe at a recent family picnic. I checked at the hospital later that morning and was told that Uncle Jerry's condition was serious, and the nurse asked that I try to locate Wes. Uncle Jerry had been in the nursing home for quite a while and at times would seem to fail and then rally again. I wondered if this was any different. Nevertheless, I started making phone calls to see if Wes could be found. Because cell phones were not yet in widespread use at the time, I had to call all over, including to the local sheriff for advice and to various places in Duluth, until I was eventually connected with a ranger station near where Wes was thought to have entered the Boundary Waters. I explained the situation and was told that nothing short of a costly search and rescue effort would lead to Wes being found. And even then, there was little chance he would be located in the vast wilderness. The sympathetic ranger offered to put a note on his vehicle telling Wes to call the Aitkin hospital in the hope that he would find it in several days when he was ready to leave the area. That was all he could do.

Throughout the morning I went back and forth from home and the hospital. My mother was visiting, and she looked after our two children who were then ages five and two. Uncle Jerry had labored breathing and was unconscious and his doctor did not think he would live much longer. I wondered what we would do if Uncle Jerry died before his son returned from his vacation. Even more, I wondered how Wes would feel when he learned that his father had died several days before. After returning home, I prayed with all my heart, "Okay God, I've done everything I know to do and now the rest is up to you."

Around suppertime when my husband returned home from work, I explained what had happened during the day and we went to the hospital. To my astonishment, we met Wes at the hospital entrance. I asked him how the park rangers had managed to find him after telling me it would be impossible. He replied, "I heard my name." He explained that he had been at his campsite and had heard his name as the rangers were talking on their walkie-talkies. The sound of their conversation had traveled across the lake to where he was. He was able to talk with the rangers and they passed on the message. Wes made it to the hospital about one half hour prior to his father's passing.

When thinking about the timeline of the events that day, it was evident that Wes heard his name being called around the same time I made that prayer. "What is impossible with man, is possible with God," Luke 18:27. God allowed a son to be there with his dying father as he took his last breath. He allowed me to see the power of a simple prayer and to trust that God will take care of the rest.

By Jeanne Kurtz



## ... in Scripture & Study for Worship

*Sunday April 3, 2022*

*Psalm 126*

*John 12:1-8*

*Good Friday April 15, 2022*

*Scripture and Song Service*

*Wednesday April 6, 2022*

*John 13:12-17*

*Resurrection Sunday April 17, 2022*

*Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24*

*Luke 24:1-12*

*Palm Sunday April 10, 2022*

*Psalm 31:9-16*

*Luke 19:28-38 and 23:1-49*

*Sunday April 24, 2022*

*Psalm 150*

*John 20:19-31*

*Maundy Thursday April 14, 2022*

*John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

### I'm Getting Excited

So much is happening right now that I can't imagine not being excited by it all. We are nearly through Lent and in the words of a Tim Hughes song we will soon be to "The greatest day in History".

Even though all is still covered in a blanket of snow or sheets of ice, the earth has already begun telling the plants of Spring to spring forth. Our resident hawks will arrive soon and renew their nesting in the trees outside my window. I can finally open those windows and let in fresh air and go to sleep to the sounds of Great Northern and Barred owls searching for the rodents that have started moving again. The ice on Mille Lacs Lake will be getting darker and darker and start to pull away from the shore and, depending on the wind, the ice will start pushing against the shores. Northern Pike and Muskies will be moving into creeks and rivers to begin their spawn. Walleye and Suckers will soon follow. Hopefully, all of the seeds that I wanted to start are in and growing. The Springtime chore list will be huge as we tidy up from Winter and prepare for the gardening season.

*Ecclesiastes 3:1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*

But for me the greatest reason for excitement, is that I am saved by Christ's sacrifice on the Cross. His resurrection is the end of the "Winter" of our souls and renewal of our Spirit.

*<sup>35</sup> But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup> You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. <sup>1 Corinthians 15:34-38</sup>*

Our Awesome God planted a seed, it died and was raised from the dead. Through it, we are saved. How can you not be excited?!

*Blessings,  
Karlin*

## ... in Donations

When considering Memorial/Honorarium Donations, please prioritize these ministries and needs:

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN & YOUTH MILESTONE MINISTRIES GENERAL ACCOUNT

Milestone Ministries, Scholarship Fund is a sub account of the Memorial Savings Account. Milestone Ministries is used to support all Baptisms, First Bibles, First Communion, Confirmation & Graduation expenses.

For a complete list of ministries, please contact the church office.

*A huge thank you to all who support these important ministries!*

## BUILDING FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

### Major Capital Improvement Fund

<b>Balance: 2/1/22</b>	<b>\$114,324.75</b>
<b><u>Current Deposits</u></b>	<b><u>Current Withdrawals</u></b>
<b>\$1,431.97</b>	<b>\$550.00</b>
<b>Balance: 2/28/22</b>	<b>\$115,206.72</b>

### General Operating Budget Report

	<u>FEB-2022</u>	<u>FEB 2021</u>	<u>YTD thru 2022</u>	<u>YTD thru 2021</u>
Budget	35,074	32,848	70,148	65,696
General Fund Giving	23,654	24,315	69,171	57,803
General Fund Expense	25,699	24,359	55,383	51,296
Net Income	-2,045	-44	13,788	6,507

\*2021 Numbers are based on Accrual Accounting

**Thank you for your faithful giving!**

.... in Pastor's Perspective



Pastor Paul J. Mattson  
218.546.6010  
pauljm@immanuelcrosby.org

EDITH BURNS was a wonderful lady who lived in San Antonio, Texas. Will Phillips was a gentle doctor who saw patients as people. His favorite patient was Edith Burns. Edith Burns usually introduced herself in this way: "Hello, my name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?" Then she would explain the meaning of Easter, and many times people would be changed.

One day Dr Phillips received bad news. With a heavy heart he told Edith, "You have cancer, and Edith, you're not going to live very long." Edith said, "Will Phillips, shame on you. Why are you so sad? Do you think God makes mistakes? I'm going to see my precious Lord Jesus, my husband, and my friends. You have just told me that I am going to celebrate Easter forever, and here you are having difficulty giving me my ticket!" Soon it became necessary to put her in the hospital. Edith told the doctor: "Will, I'm very near home, so would you make sure they put women next to me in my hospital room who need to know about Easter?"

They did just that. Many women who shared a room with Edith were changed forever! Everybody on that floor started calling her Edith Easter; that is everyone except Phyllis Cross, the head nurse. Phyllis made it plain that she wanted nothing to do with Edith because she was a "religious nut." But soon, even Phyllis Cross was drawn to Edith's room like a magnet would draw iron.

Phyllis Cross said, "Edith, you have asked everybody here the question, Do you believe in Easter? **Yes**, but you have never asked me." Edith said, "Phyllis, I wanted to many times, but God told me to wait until you asked, and now that you have asked..."

Edith Burns took her Bible and shared with Phyllis Cross the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Edith said, "Phyllis, do you believe in Easter? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is alive and that He wants to live in your heart?"

Phyllis Cross said, "Oh I want to believe that with all of my heart, and I do want Jesus in my life." Right there, Phyllis Cross prayed and invited Jesus Christ into her heart. A few days later, on Easter Sunday, Phyllis Cross walked into Edith's room. Edith was in bed. Her Bible was on her lap. Her hands were in that Bible. There was a sweet smile on her face. When Phyllis Cross went to pick up Edith's hand, she realized Edith was dead. Her left hand was on John 14: *"In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."* Phyllis Cross left Edith's body, walked out of the room, and over to a table where two student nurses were sitting.

She said, "Hello, my name is Phyllis Cross. Do you believe in Easter?"

Blessed Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus!

Pastor Paul

A Prayer Shawl is meant to be given to anyone (male or female, including children) who has had surgery, been diagnosed with an illness, lost a loved one or is dealing with a hardship.

Prayers are said while the shawl is being made, that recipients may feel comfort and love as they wrap themselves in it. Shawls are available in the Fellowship Hall in the far right hand corner on the cabinet shelves. Please be sure to check/sign the book saying to whom you are giving a shawl because we don't want to duplicate. Please let me know of anyone you believe should receive one of these Prayer Shawls.

Thank you, and if any questions, please feel free to call or contact me at 218-546-6065 or by email [mmmlarson@crosbyironton.net](mailto:mmmlarson@crosbyironton.net).

Marsha Larson



**JUST A REMINDER --**

Spring is right around the corner, but Lutheran Social Service wants residents of Crow Wing County to know that funding remains for the 2021/2022 Energy Assistance Program.

Heat and electric grants are available for renters or homeowners and are based on household size, income, fuel type, and energy usage.

Households that pay for water may be eligible for help with a past due water bill.

Income guidelines are based on 60% of the state median income.

**Assets are not counted.**

Homeowners may also be eligible for emergency furnace repair or replacement.

Households with a member that is 60 years of age or older may be eligible for additional funding if they have a current or past due bill they can't afford to pay. Call our office for more information.

Applications are available outside at 716 E. St., Brainerd, MN 56401.

Applications are available online at [lssmn.org](http://lssmn.org) (Search Energy).

Call us at 218-829-5000 for more information.

Non-Crow Wing County residents call: 1-800-657-3710.



Sunday School meets on Sundays at 10:45am following Children's Time in the 10:30 worship service. All children age 3 through 6th grade are welcome to attend. They do not need to be members of Immanuel.

The Sunday School teachers are James Freese, Lindsay Freese, Ricky Aulie, and Linnea Laffin.



.... in Youth Ministry

During Lent the youth are asked to have mentors. They are encouraged to attend the soup supper and the worship service on Wednesday nights with their mentor. Following the worship service the student and mentor are provided with some questions to discuss related to the message.

The church is open at 5:00 for the students to gather and have a time of fellowship.

The Fourth Sunday of the month is Youth Sunday at the 10:30 worship service. The students along with family members are asked to greet, usher, lector and read the Prayers of the People.



.... in Special Milestones!



April Birthdays

- 04/03 Nathan Finnerty, Luc Payne, Rock Gunter
- 04/04 Molly VanHorn
- 04/06 Danielle Corey
- 04/07 Jim Bloedel
- 04/08 Ron Mogen, Audrey Wittnebel
- 04/09 Rick Koop, Terri Larson
- 04/10 Olive Bourgeois, Isabelle Thompson, Jack Schubert
- 04/11 Steven Heins
- 04/12 Carter DeCent, Megan Ward
- 04/14 Mary Nagorski, Jay Hunter
- 04/15 Nicholas Zillmer, Tucker Pederson, Barbara Rhodes, Lucy Christenson
- 04/16 Fred Van Krevelen
- 04/18 Cindy Albrecht
- 04/19 Judy Christenson
- 04/20 Eric Nelson, Steve Freese
- 04/22 Trey Jacobs, Jonothan Wittnebel
- 04/23 Denny Davis, Audrey Jacobson, Kevin Reinhart, Charlotte Albrecht, Ryan Kovatovich
- 04/24 Dan Ustipak, Jr, Mike Patrick
- 04/25 Garry Nelson, Sophie Androff, Sandra Twigg, Bentley Hurd
- 04/26 Wendy Flannigan, Marlys Lindert, Bruce Oliphant
- 04/27 Marek Koop, Michelle Hage
- 04/28 Allison Johnson, Curt Christopherson, Pamela Klopfleisch
- 04/29 Linda Peterson, Mary Peterson, Noah Reinhart, Joyce Kallestad, Jaidynn Unzeitig
- 04/30 Judy McKanna, Wendy Chirhart, Gavin Hoyt

April

Wedding Anniversaries

- |                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Ken & Sandy Johnson      | 04/06/1968 |
| Don & Judi Hendrickson   | 04/08/1995 |
| Randy & Amy Stanfield    | 04/10/1990 |
| Paul & Jill Mattson      | 04/13/1985 |
| Steven & Erica Perpich   | 04/18/2009 |
| Hal & Judy Kirchoff      | 04/20/1968 |
| Paul & Bonnie Fairchild  | 04/24/1965 |
| Brian & Kim Marquart     | 04/25/1992 |
| Steve & Laura Heins      | 04/27/2001 |
| Jason & Paula Kovatovich | 04/29/2006 |
| Jeff & Kelly Klein       | 04/30/2005 |



**Memorials & Honorariums Given in February & March 2022**

**For the Youth Fund**

In memory of Joyce Ferrari by Greg & Kim Waffensmith  
 From Denny & LuAnn Henrichs  
 From Sheldon & Shirley Sanborn

**For Milestone Ministry**

In memory of Sheila Carlson by Denny & LuAnn Hendrich  
 In memory of Sandy Polich by Chip Polich

**For the CRES Care Kits**

In memory of Brent Running by Judy Running

**For the CIHS Care Kits**

In memory of Hazel Zauhar by Ken & Barb Moe

**For the Quilters Fund**

In memory of Auntie Beth by Don & Nancy Nyvold

**For the Malawi Fund**

In memory of Lois Pelzer, Roger Christenson, Anita Anderson,  
 Florence Snook and Hazel Zauhar by Pastor Paul & Jill Mattson

TOTAL: \$470



**... MN Adult & Teen Challenge**

The MN Adult and Teen Challenge choir from Brainerd was at Immanuel on Sunday, March 13th. They shared their message of hope with music and testimonies. A meal was provided for them following the 10:30am service.



**... in Attendance**

<u>Sunday, February 20, 2022</u>		<u>Wednesday, March 9, 2022</u>	
9:00am	79	6:45pm	95
10:30am	<u>58</u>		
<b>Total</b>	137	<u>Sunday, March 13, 2022</u>	
<u>Sunday, February 27, 2022</u>		9:00am	132
9:00am	74	10:30am	<u>80</u>
10:30am	<u>81</u>	<b>Total</b>	212
<b>Total</b>	155	<u>March 2022 Total-to-Date</u>	
<u>February 2022 Total-to-Date</u>			566
	541		
<u>Sunday, March 2, 2022</u>			
6:45pm	126		
<u>Sunday, March 6, 2022</u>			
9:00am	86		
10:30am	<u>57</u>		
<b>Total</b>	133		

The Joy of Church Attendance

Thank You

Thank you to all of Immanuel, the total amount of donations received for "Souper Bowl Sunday" has now reached \$1092.27!! What an awesome amount?

Immanuel's support for the food shelf is so very much appreciated.

Thanks be to God!



**SALE**

**LOOKING FOR A RUMMAGE SALE COORDINATOR,**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT:**

**218/546-6010 OR EMAIL: [office@immanuelcrosby.org](mailto:office@immanuelcrosby.org).**



**If you have a charter.net email address and are not receiving the weekly emails from Immanuel, please contact the church office at: 218-546-6010, Monday – Thursday from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Thank you.**

**...Manna for Malawi 2022**

Our event will be at the Bridge Tavern on Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> this year. We are looking for volunteers, silent auction items and solicitors. Our next meeting is March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Bridge. Join us if you can.

We are planning a Meal with a Mission on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

There are still openings for the mission trip to Malawi in July.

If you want more information or want to volunteer, contact me at [terriwisniak@gmail.com](mailto:terriwisniak@gmail.com).



**Our MISSION:**  
**To be a community of Christians**  
**who welcome all people to GATHER in worship,**