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Immanuel's Story

.... in Prayer Ministry

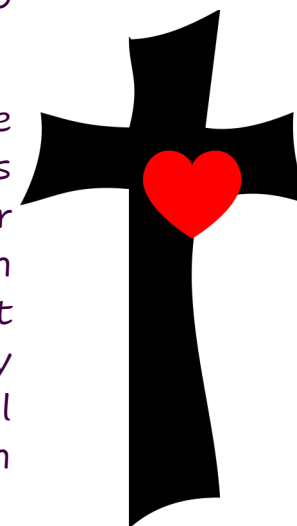
As fallen humans, we all struggle with the disease of selfishness, which can extend even to our prayer lives. We can struggle to stop and pray at all. And when we finally manage, we can find our hearts and minds immediately filled with concerns about our jobs, our health, our relationships, and our unmet longings. As a result, our prayers can center simply on our own comfort and desires. And in a world filled with threats from sin, sickness, and weakness, our orientation toward self can easily even give way to anxiety and fear.

Many of us know that the Bible teaches us to orient our prayers toward the glory of God and the coming of his Kingdom (Matthew 6:9-10). We may not know however, how much power might come from such praying. This power recues us from a narrow life and gives us grace to see God's will accomplished on earth as it is in heaven.

Jesus promises that when we seek God's kingdom first, our anxieties will fade, and everything we need will be given (Matthew 6:33). We can seek God's kingdom in many ways, but nothing is more fundamental to this pursuit than simply asking for his kingdom to come in prayer.

When our prayers are oriented toward the glory of God and the coming of his kingdom, true comfort and happiness for ourselves and others will follow. Such praying enables us to better interpret those difficulties as light momentary afflictions preparing us for an eternal weight of glory (2 Corinthians 4:17), which is to come with his kingdom.

submitted by Eileen Patrick



Lent 2023: Ash Wednesday (Feb 22) through Resurrection Sunday (April 9)

Meal with a Mission

Sunday, February 19th, 10am—Noon

**Proceeds support YOUTH Ministry
 At Immanuel**

*in Scripture & Study
for Worship*

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5
Psalm 112:1-9
Matthew 5:13-20

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Psalm 119:1-8
Matthew 5:21-37

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Psalm 99
Matthew 17:1-9

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB 22
Psalm 51:1-13
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Psalm 32
Matthew 4:1-11



General Operating Budget Report

	<u>DEC 2022</u>	<u>DEC 2021</u>	<u>YTD 2022</u>	<u>YTD t2021</u>
Budget*	35,077	32,848	420,891	394,174
General Fund Giving	39,042	32,809	415,914	383,143
General Fund Expense	35,843	31,291	378,135	362,536
Net Income	3,199	1,518	37,779	20,607

Budget figures reflect approved annual budget divided by 12 months. Actual figures on a monthly basis will vary depending on giving patterns and seasonal expense variations.

Thank you for your faithful giving!

.... in Donations

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL QUILTING MILESTONE MINISTRIES GENERAL ACCOUNT

Call Karen Midthun with quilting questions: 218-791-0171

Milestone Ministries and the Scholarship Fund are sub-accounts of the Memorial Savings Account. Milestone Ministries is used to support all Baptism and Confirmation expenses.

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

BUILDING FUNDS/ MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	December 1, 2022	Balance:		\$119,283.20
		Deposits	\$1,417.12	
		Reserve	\$250.00	\$3,000.00
		Withdrawals	\$4,580.00	
	December 31, 2022	Ending Balance		\$116,370.32

... in Pastor's Perspective



Pastor Paul J. Mattson
218.546.6010
pauljm@immanuelcrosby.org

During the 1990 Super Bowl (XXV) between The New York Giants and the Buffalo Bills, with 8 seconds left in the game, Scott Norwood missed a 47-yard field goal for the Bills. No one felt more pain than Norwood.

Even 20 years after his failed attempt, here's how he described his feelings:

"Sorrow, I guess, and disappointment in letting down the teammates that are there on the field of battle with you. I still get choked up thinking about it, putting myself back in that situation."

But nothing prepared Scott Norwood for the greeting he would receive in Buffalo the next week. Nearly 30,000 screaming fans met Norwood and his teammates in Buffalo after the loss, many of them chanting and screaming and cheering, "WE WANT SCOTT!!...WE WANT SCOTT!!" Here's how Norwood described the scene:

We got back to town and I did not know what to expect. What I really wanted to do was just remain behind the scenes, but there was a chant that intensified ... I was not expecting to be called to the front like that. I had to speak off the top of my mind and real quick. I think in a sense, that's when the truest feelings arise. Scott with mic in hand, telling the crowd, "I know that I have never felt more loved than I do right now."

Norwood found a small taste of amazing grace.

In the upcoming season of Lent, we will take some time to explore and reflect upon **"God's Amazing Grace"** with several stories from the Bible.

The journey begins at worship on **Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 6:45pm.**

Looking forward to the journey with you! Pastor Paul



Happy New Year!

And what a year it's been. I am truly inspired as I watch God's wonderful plans unfold for this church, and for the Family Ministry. His Holy Spirit guides my every step in all planning and preparing for such amazing blessings to come!



In Children's Ministry...

Sunday School is back in session after the holiday break, and it's so wonderful to see families in church each Sunday! As a reminder, all kids pre-K through 6th grade are welcome to attend Sunday School, which dismisses during the 10:30 service. Our annual 3rd Grade Bible Presentation and Learning Session is upon us again. The learning session is Sunday, January 22nd, from 11:30-12:30. All 3rd Graders and their parent(s) and/or caregivers should attend. On Sunday, January 29th, students will be presented their bible during the 10:30 service. This is also available to anyone who may have missed this opportunity. Contact Jill DeCent with questions- jilld@immanuelcrosby.org

In Youth/Confirmation...

Youth are continuing through the "Youth Alpha" series, which engages students in conversations about life and faith. Students gather in small groups while viewing the video content, then engage in conversations. Youth are set to attend the next "BAY Rally" brought by the "Brainerd Area Youth for Christ" at the Northern Pacific Center, on January 25th. This will be an excellent opportunity to listen to a Christian speaker, praise and worship as a large group, and meet other area church's youth groups. Seven students from our Confirmation group and three adult mentors are attending "Winter Wipeout" at Camp Shamineau the weekend of January 13th. This a fun retreat for local youth groups, filled with devotion, worship, games, food, and tons of outdoor activities! Confirmation students are continuing in learning about the Lord's Prayer, then will move on to the Ten Commandments.

In Family Ministry-

We will be canvassing survey results in the month of January, then strategically planning for the continued faith formation in families both in the church, and at home.

I've been truly working my "Trust Muscles" in this new year, and committing more time with God. What are you going to commit to in the new year, that helps in yours and/or your families faith journey?

Jill DeCent
Family Ministry Coordinator
jilld@immanuelcrosby.org

Wednesdays during Lent, there is an opportunity to worship and have lunch with friends in the community at NOON. A soup lunch will be served following worship. The theme this year is "The Valleys of Lent." Schedule:

- March 1 Cascade United Methodist Church, Deerwood
- March 8 Heartwood, with Lifespring Church serving
- March 15 Here at Immanuel
- March 22 Salem Lutheran Church, Deerwood
- March 29 Crosby Assembly of God

EVERYONE is welcome!



"Kettles" for donations of cash, change and checks will be displayed on Sunday, February 12th at Immanuel. Please, give generously as all funds will benefit the Cuyuna Range Food Shelf. The need in our area is great and your \$\$ donations go a long way!



... in Special Milestones!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



DATE

- 1 Violeta Orozco-Schneider
- 2 Carol Pundt
- 4 Kara Maucieri
- 5 Wyatt Holmes, Colten Perpich
- 6 Irma Gagnon, Anabel Duerr, Casidy Duerr, Tracy Popkes
- 7 Robert Kalk
- 8 Carolyn Mogen
- 9 Marsha Larson
- 11 Marvin Holmvig, Maverick Peterson
- 13 Richard Aulie, Dee Dee Frahm, Karen Palmer,
- 14 Joshua Maucieri
- 15 Darlene Christopherson
- 16 LaVonne Kompelien, Pastor Paul, Madison Thompson, Gayle Hanes
- 17 Bill Bongs, Helen Oman, Florence Snook, Jolie Nelson, Kellen Klein
- 18 Paula Kovatovich
- 19 Kasen Nixon
- 20 Susan Bushard, Jessica Meyer, Beryl Foote, Shirley Weber, Brian Marquardt
- 21 Kim Marquardt
- 22 Claudia Peterson, Rick Koop, Chelsey Bonsante, Jayson Kalk, Andrew Kayfes
- 23 Terri Wisniak
- 24 Emma Gustafson, Sylvia Graff, Darlene McNally
- 25 Alexis Olson
- 26 Merlin Beseman, Johnna Johnson, Dale Klungness
- 27 Melva Panitzke, Nancy Evans
- 28 Barb Hakes, Dennis Henrichs, Ted Abear
- 29 Marcella Olson



February

Wedding Anniversaries

- Dean & Margo Sodahl 02/12/2000
- James & Paula Traylor 02/14/1987
- Bill & Jody Bunio 02/14/1989
- Gary & Sandy Erickson 02/17/1974
- Robert & Sandra Blood 02/18/2006
- Merlin & Marion Beseman 02/20/1954

Baptisms

Iris Mae Christenson
Daughter of Jace & Kayla Christenson
January 29, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Everlee Jane Stettler
Daughter of Chad Stettler & Nicole Marquardt
February 26, 2023
9:00 a.m.

.... in Memorials & Honorariums for December 2022 and January 2023

Undesignated

- ◊ In memory of Shirley Foote and Dan Foote by Lynette Talbert
- ◊ In memory of Dale & Lucille Evans, Howard & Lois Peterson, and Jim Nephew by David & Claudia Peterson
- ◊ In memory of Ken Solom by Mary Carlson
- ◊ In memory of Ken Solom by Sandra Solom

Quilters Fund

- ◊ In memory of Shirley Harker by Blaine & Debbie Kreller

Sunshine Fund

- ◊ In memory of Marlys Dehning by David & Claudia Peterson

Handbell Ministry

- ◊ In memory of Shirley Foote by John & Jeanette Radinovich

General Fund

- ◊ In memory of Ward Park by David & Claudia Peterson

Malawi Fund

- ◊ In memory of Shirley Harker by David & Claudia Peterson

Youth Fund

- ◊ In memory of Tom Ringhand by David & Claudia Peterson

.... in Attendance

Saturday, December 24, 2022

2:00 p.m.	92	
4:00 p.m.	153	
8:00 p.m.	31	
TOTAL		276

Sunday, December 25, 2022

9:00 a.m.	42	
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DECEMBER TOTAL: 869

Sunday, January 1, 2023

9:00 a.m.	97	
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Sunday, January 8, 2023

9:00 a.m.	98	
10:30 a.m.	75	
TOTAL		173

Sunday, January 15, 2023

9:00 a.m.	113	
10:30 a.m.	74	
TOTAL		187

Sunday, January 22, 2023

9:00 a.m.	99	
10:30 a.m.	62	
TOTAL		161

Handbell Ministry

Happy New Year! The bells were ringing a lot in the later part of December. We performed for the care center residents at CRMC on December 20th – they were a great audience, we all had fun, and there was even a guest appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus! The bells performed to a packed house on Christmas Eve and then took a much needed break in January, as we had spent so much time preparing for Christmas events that I didn't anticipate such a short time before January's regularly scheduled performance. During that short break, I was able to get the music selected through April 9th (Easter Sunday) and finally get myself organized. We have a performances where we will be short players, so if you have an interest in playing full time, filling in as a substitute occasionally, or even accompanying us with another instrument, please contact me at any time. Since I'm still new to the congregation, I don't know who to approach when I am looking for additional musicians.

Calling all Chapel Chimers – Chapel Chimers practice is on Wednesdays from 5:10 to 6:00 p.m. in the Sunday School classroom. This is for students grades 2 and older are invited and encouraged to participate – **this also includes confirmation students (PSSST.....you will receive 1 service credit each time you perform!)** Come check it out – even just for the fun of making music.

Dee Dee Frahm

218.839.3961

