



EMMANUEL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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LEANNE ROSE, PASTOR 262-965-2429
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FROM
PASTOR LEANNE



I know what I'm supposed to writing here. It's the start of a new year and a January newsletter is supposed to talk about a fresh start, an opportunity to begin again, and yet, as I write this before Christmas that is not the way I'm feeling this year. I'm not feeling quite as optimistic that this year will be so different than the ones before because this year, I'm feeling much more honest about how the New Year doesn't change much. I still haven't committed to my fitness health, I still eat too much sugar, I still haven't been great at staying in touch, and more despite the goals I make for myself at the beginning of each and every year.

I imagine that as the clock turns to a new year, there will be a lot of deep sighs, quiet toasting among families in their homes, and even more who just decided midnight is too late to be awake.

So maybe this New Years we need to give ourselves a break. No, we're not going to make ourselves feel bad that we don't make it to the gym or we don't fit into those clothes 2 sizes too small we keep saving anyway. Maybe we don't shame ourselves for all that we don't check off a list or get done. And certainly don't shame ourselves for how this last year turned out. Maybe we just need some grace.

Grace to accept that nothing is perfect but God. Grace to try again or try differently when it didn't turn out the way we planned the first time. Grace to let go. Grace to feel all the feelings and not judge them. Grace for another day.

We still have hopes. And it's not wrong to make plan and expectations. But maybe this New Year we just need to remember that grace is already given to us and we just need to take a deep breath and accept it.

I don't know what 2021 will hold for us as individuals or as a community, but I do know, that God is always offering grace, loving all of creation—including each of us, and we are still a community that loves and cares for each other. May that be the grace that starts this new year for you and your family.

Pastor Leanne

The Messenger

JANUARY 2021

VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:30 AM
FACEBOOK LIVE
(and later on) YOUTUBE

January 3

*prayers for Karen & John Quaden
and the Rivera family*

Holy Communion

**Jim Langreder will be our guest
preacher and Jeannie Phelan our
guest liturgist**

January 10

*prayers for Julia Starbuck and
Sue & Tom Stelling*

Luke 3:1-22

Zoom Council meeting at 10:45 AM

January 17

*prayers for Marjore & Mark
Thompson and Steve Thompson*

Luke 4:14-30

January 24

*prayers for Marian Speerless &
Stephen Turley and the Stack-
Vaughn family*

January 31

*prayers for Charlotte Voigt and
Kristen Voskuil & Adam Brandes*
**Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros, WI Conference
Assoc. Pastor will be our guest preacher**
**10:45 AM ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
CONGREGATION via ZOOM**

January Celebrations



BIRTHDAYS

Jere Marheine	5	John Quaden, Sr.	19
Sherri Krantz	6	Aaron Kinney	22
Pat Doering	13	Mike Laur	22
Bill Welch	13	Ashton Kinney	31
Gregg Jarrett	17		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Carole & Dan Milos	19
Marjore & Mark Thompson	31

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

Vera Ortman	3	1971	50 years
Shirlene Hazelberg	27	2008	13 years
Sherri & Bob Krantz	27	2008	13 years
Melissa & Rick Rivera	27	2008	13 years
Charlotte Voigt	27	2008	13 years
Sharon Logemann	31	2010	11 years

3	Jeanne Phelan
10	Sarah Erickson-Bhatt
17	Ann Carpenter
24	Student
31	Robert Zondag



This n That...



♥ our Dousman Meals drivers for December: Nicole, Miles & Eliza Kerr; Kris Davidson, Sue Stelling, Kathy Zebrowski, Shirlene Hazelberg, Jo Quaden.

♥ Our Advent candle-lighting families:

Kers, Obenbergers, Hazelbergs, Riveras and Phelps.

♥ our shoveling team for December: Ron Blaschuk, John Lui and Ken Pike.

♥ Our Board of Stewards for running a very successful Pledge Program this year under difficult circumstances!!

♥ Shirlene Hazelberg & Sue Stelling for being on hand to receive your Family Promise gifts and Vet Bags on December 12th...and to Shirlene for delivering the Family Promise gifts to Waukesha.

♥ Sandie Horne & Kathy Zebrowski for delivering the Vet Bags to the Veterans Hospital in Milwaukee.

♥ THANK YOU Adam Langreder & Pete Hazelberg for running the computer & cameras for our streaming services each week!

♥ Fran Pike who continues to undergo cancer treatments.



♥ Melanie Laur who found out her job is being eliminated as of the first of the year.

♥ Frieda Goetsch who is scheduled to have hip replacement surgery in January.

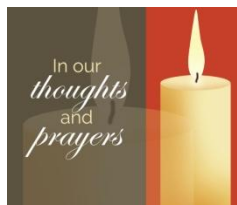
♥ Steve Thompson who has been experiencing sinus-related problems.

♥ Vera Ortman, who continues to experience problems with her arm resulting from her fall in early 2020.

♥ Shirlene Hazelberg's mother, Marie, also with cancer.

♥ Those affected by the Covid-19 virus, physically, mentally, monetarily.

♥ Our shut-ins: Jeanette Collins, Jan Wilson, Judy Stanek.



Steve Kasten, the husband of our former member, Holly Kasten, passed away on December 9th as a result of Covid-19. Please keep Holly and her children, Tiffany and Josh in your thoughts and prayers.

Each week we pray for the safety and wellbeing of Gail & Sal Tamez's son, Andrew who is serving in Afghanistan. This is Andrew's address if you'd wish to send him a card:
 SPC Powell, Andrew
 996 ECC
 Bagram
 APO, AE 09354-999

Annual Congregational Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held via Zoom this year on Sunday, January 31 at 10:45 AM. We will need a minimum of 25 members participating to make this an official meeting. Prior to the 31st,

the Annual Report for 2020 will be sent out via email to those with internet access. Others will receive it by mail. The report contains reports from all financial officers, boards, committees, as well as the nomination page for 2021 elections of various positions. At the back of the report will be an updated member/friends address/phone listing.

You do not need a camera device to participate on Zoom, you may do it via telephone using that portion of the instructions below:

All of our Zoom gatherings have the same link, ID and passcode.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3429571341?pwd=NjRQSnJFYVRIamdPShk5T2tOVCFtSdz09>

Meeting ID: 342 957 1341

Passcode: 9652429

You can participate via telephone using this information:
 Call telephone number: 1 312 626 6799



Thank you to everyone who dropped off gifts and/or gift cards for our "virtual" Angel Tree to our adopted family sponsored by Family Promise. We collected toys, clothes and

gift cards for a Mom and her 3 year old son to give them a bit better Christmas. Our church has once again proven to be very generous even with all the concerns and complications of the Corona Virus.

Additionally, 23 gift bags were filled with warm socks, mittens/gloves, scarves, toiletries, laundry soap and other helpful items and given to homeless veterans through the Zablocki Veteran's Medical Center in Milwaukee. Thanks to all who generously supported this endeavor!

We also are still supporting Family Promise through our "virtual" Singing Bowl. Please continue to support this agency, if you can, as they work to give families rent relief, shelter and utility support in prevention of homelessness. 66% of those helped are children. Please send your donations to the church office until we can meet in church again and collect your loose change in our Singing Bowl. Be sure to mark all donations mailed in "Singing Bowl." Although we can no longer house and feed families in our physical church building due to COVID, Family Promise has helped more families than ever in 2020 thanks to contributions by our congregation and 27 others.

Stay tuned for more information on our "Souper Bowl" fund drive in February to help stock our Food Pantry as they are seeing many more in need this year. Let's help them restock their shelves!


A note from Sue Stelling & Charlotte Voigt...

We are so proud to be part of this amazing church family. You are all so generous with your giving and caring for others. Considering these uncertain times and not being able to gather together at church, there was some concern that buying gifts this year for a Family Promise family might be challenging. Our December newsletter came out the end of the week and by the following Tuesday all the gift ornaments were spoken for. THANK YOU so much for making Christmas special for a mom and her three-year-old son.

A note from our Board of Stewards...

Thank you to everyone who supported our Pledge Drive in any way. As expected because we could not gather together to celebrate the day by turning in our 2021 commitments and enjoying a celebration brunch after, the pledges are coming in a bit slower than they normally do. We have faith that our church family will continue to support Emmanuel's ministry and mission and 2021 will be a great year! **We are VERY PLEASED to announce that to date the pledging for 2021 is as follows: General Fund: - \$97,120.00 from 34 pledges and OCWM - \$2,590.00 from 10 pledges!! THANK YOU!!**

BLOOD DRIVE



Season of giving

**Monday
January**

11

1:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.


FDA face covering required.

Dousman Community Blood Drive

LOCATION: Dousman Community Center - Community Room, 235 N Main St, Dousman, WI 53118

REGISTER TODAY: Call 877-BE-A-HERO or register online at bit.ly/dousmanjan2021

COVID-19 Antibody Testing will be performed on all successful donations. All attempting donors will receive a Versiti Branded face covering as a thank you! (while supplies last)



For more information, call 877-BE-A-HERO or visit Versiti.org



THANK YOU to all who regularly donate bags of aluminum cans Two large black garbage containers have been placed on either side of the bench at the main entrance to collect aluminum cans.

We appreciate your ongoing support. Donations may be sent to our P.O. Box address: Emmanuel UCC, P.O. Box 216, Dousman 53118. THANK YOU!!



THANK YOU for your ongoing support!



AARP FOUNDATION TAXAIDE

(FREE TAX HELP for 2020 taxes)

Oconomowoc Area Senior Center

(210 S. Main Street)

Please call Joni Briski

(262) 470-9198

(after Monday, January 11)

to make an appointment.

Please call Monday-Friday:

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Please call only to make an appointment, not to get answers to tax questions.

TUESDAYS: FEBRUARY 2 TO APRIL 6

9:00-3:00

- Please come only 5 minutes before your appointment time.
- Bring your tax return from last year.
- Bring all tax papers.
- Your appointment will be for only 40 minutes.
- All tax returns will be done virtually.
- You will be required to come back 9 days after your first appointment and get your printed return.

There is no cost for this tax service!

(Please make sure you bring last year's taxes, all tax documents and picture ID.)

Married couples are required to come together (some exemptions apply).



Council met on Sunday, December 13th via Zoom. Participants were: Jeannie Phelan, Sherri Krantz, Rev. Leanne Rose, Kathy Zebrowski,

Gary Phelps, Sue Stelling, Kristen Voskuil, Charlotte Voigt, Shirlene Hazelberg and Peggy Hazelberg.

Kathy gave the financial report: We continue to do OK financially. RBC investments improved in November, gaining \$16,009.58 for a total value of \$212,996.17. Arrangements have been made with Ixonia Bank so that the Treasurers can access all the various church accounts and print statements since the bank will begin charging for paper statements. They will also begin paying bills online to save on postage costs.

Pastor Leanne reported that Advent cards (and bags w/cards & craft projects for families w/children or grandchildren) were delivered by herself, Jeannie Phelan, Jim Langreder and Donna Newland. Wednesday night Advent meditations are going well. Streaming worship services is improving. One of the cameras is causing issues and may need to be returned. She is thinking of ways we can expand connecting with the congregation. She is also exploring ways to have ongoing conversations on the subject of racial justice. Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros, our Conference Associate Minister will be our guest preacher on January 31 (not a vacation Sunday for Pastor Leanne). She is the person the Transition

Team is working with in our search effort. Pastor Leanne along with Jeannie and Jim Langreder meet about every 6 weeks to plan worship music. Plans are in place through December. Open to ideas for Lent!! Online worship viewership remains good.

Peggy has sent out emails to the families regarding participating in the virtual Christmas Pageant. Families make their own videos and send them to Peggy to put together. Hopes to have it ready for the Dec. 20th worship service. If not, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day would be OK.

Sue Stelling and Charlotte Voigt reported for Stewards that as of Dec. 13th the pledge drive has yielded: GF - \$81,040.00 with 27 pledges collected; OCWM - \$2,480.00 with 8 pledges collected. Additional pledges continue to come in. The annual special UCC offering for The Christmas Fund will be December 20th.

Kristen is working on Usher Schedule for 2021 including asking ushers if they wish to continue since it will encompass both outdoor and hopefully eventually indoor services. For now, she is assigning one usher per Sunday and will amend as needed.

Peggy and Pastor Leanne reported that the Transition Team continues to work on our church profile and hopes to have it completed in January.

Shirlene reported that 23 Vet Bags and Family Promise gifts for one family were collected. Kathy Zebrowski and Sandie Horne will take the Vet Bags to the Veterans Hospital. Shirlene will take the Family Promise gifts to Waukesha on Monday.

Ken Pike sent in a written report for Trustees: Since we have officially determined we will not be having services this winter Tom has talked to our snow plowing contractor Brinkmann and they are willing to plow the driveway and only the first row of the parking lot for a reduced fee. Ron Blaschuk has sent out new procedures to the snow shoveling team, reducing the amount of work needed.

Council approved the Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held via Zoom on Sunday, January 31, 2021. Prior to that date, the Annual Report Booklet will be emailed out to the congregation. Boards and Committees should work on filling out their rosters by determining interest among the congregants in their particular mission within the church and approaching those people.

Council's next meeting will be Sunday, January 10, 2021 via Zoom.

**Do you have a talent or passion
for music and song?**



**Do you have a favorite
church song or hymn?**



Contact Jim! Record it!

You, too, could be part of worship.



Looking ahead to
February

Sunday	EA CH	Worship online/available starting at 9:30 AM on Facebook & later on YouTube
Sunday	7	HOLY COMMUNION Souper Bowl Sunday...stay tuned for information.
Sunday	14	Zoom Council meeting, 10:45 AM
M-F	15- 19	Emmanuel delivers the Dousman Area Home Meals
Wednes day	17	ASH WEDNESDAY: Virtual Worship on Facebook

WHO DO I TALK TO IF I HAVE A QUESTION??

Adult Fellowship	Corrine Mayer 431-4046 Donna Newlar 965-3563
Christian Education/ Church School	Pastor Leanne 965-2429 Peggy 470-2181 Hazelberg
Council	Gary Phelps 646-3920
Deacons	Kristen Voskuil 608-698-3777
Financial Secretary (counts offering & keeps records)	Laurie Bucket 965-2545
Family Promise	Charlotte Voig 646-2701 Sue Stelling 965-3498
Pastoral Search Transition Team	Marjore 612-240-5796 Thompson
Prayer Requests	Pastor Leanne 965-2429 Donna Newlar 965-4022
SCRIP program	Mary Branson 567-1493
Singing Bowl- same info as Social Concerns	
Social Concerns	Shirlene 470-5907 Hazelberg
Stewards	Sue Stelling 965-3498
Treasurer (issues checks)	Kathy Zebrowski 646-8882 Jeanne Phelar 414-940-4464
Trustees	Ken Pike 347-6779

Oppurtunities to Connect...

Our Church Family prides itself on being open and welcoming to all, to embrace each member of the Family through good times and bad while we do the work of the church day in and day out.

As we enter a new year, the Church Council has decided to maintain the current roster of officers and board members in an attempt to encourage continuity in our operations since everything is upside down and topsy turvy right now and nothing is happening normally. That being said, there are countless opportunities for Church Family members outside that group to jump in, be

involved and help in the work of Emmanuel. What are your interests...your gifts?

Please take a few moments and read through the information below and if there is an area that speaks to you, contact us and we'll put you in touch with someone who can help you find your niche. Volunteering does not have to mean you serve on a board or committee...you can just be that person who helps out with some of the tasks that interest you.

Christian Education...

- loves working with children and/or teens and/or adults
- loves finding new ways to make a story come alive
- has an interest in Biblical history and the 'story behind the story'
- loves craft projects

Deacons...

- loves to visit people (when it again becomes possible)...or make phone calls, just to check in
- loves to organize...ushers, greeters OR service as an usher or greeter
- would be willing to set up the elements for Holy Communion once a month or for holiday worship services

Social Concerns...

- has interest in exploring ways we can be 'the hands of Jesus' ...identifying needs in the community and beyond
- creating new and inventive ideas for outreach

Stewards...

- has interest in educating the Church Family on UCC wider missions
- has good communication skills and is able to share ways people can use all of their resources for the benefit of the church...financial, time, talent

Trustees...

- loves to 'tinker' ...be involved with identifying needed projects to maintain the church building and property
- has a financial aptitude...can look at financial reports and develop budgets
- is a good negotiator for supplier contracts

Music Ministry...

- loves music...loves to sing! the choir will be back!!
- can play an instrument or do solo singing and is willing to share that talent during a service

If you do not find your passion in this list, think of ways you could put your interest to use in the life of the church and let us know! Do you love decorating? The Sanctuary Decorating Committee would have a spot for you (again, once things return to 'normal'). We're anxious to hear from you...we want EVERYONE to feel included in the life of Emmanuel.

Treasurer's Report for November 2020

PLEDGED Income received	
(November 2020)	\$6,765.00
(November 2019)	\$8,041.50
Difference	-\$1,276.50
NON-PLEDGES & PLATE Income Received	
(November 2020)	\$845.00
(November 2019)	\$2,315.00
Difference	-\$1,470.00
Total INCOME for (November 2020) *	\$8,543.65
Total INCOME for (November 2019)	\$16,500.79
Difference	-\$7,957.14
Total EXPENSE for (November 2020)	\$11,434.14
Total EXPENSE for (November 2019)	\$9,732.74
Difference	\$1,701.40
Checking Account Balance as of November 30, 2020	\$13,061.45
Checking Account Balance as of November 30, 2019	\$10,146.21
Difference	\$2,915.24

*TOTAL INCOME includes funds received for:

Singing Bowl	\$3.65
WI Conference offering income (OCWM, Christmas Fund, etc)	\$145.00
SCRIP sales	\$0.00
Fundraisers	\$0.00

RBC Investment Account Growth for November 2020	\$16,009.58
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Capital Funds Campaign	\$ 1,376.04
Income	\$ 515.00
Expenses	\$ -
Interest	\$ 0.06
TOTAL	\$ 1,891.10

Please direct questions or comments to Kathy Zebrowski (262-646-8882) or Jeanne Phelan (414-940-4464).

**THANK YOU Peggy Hazelberg
for creating a fun, meaningful
virtual Christmas Pageant!**

The cast was awesome!

**Thank you Natalie Pakula,
Katie Brisk, Belle Langreder,**

Britta Huibregtse,

Mira & Maven Laur,

Masyn Rivera &

Adam Langreder!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																																		
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