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FROM  
**PASTOR LEANNE**



This year, despite all my best efforts and calendars November surprised me, Advent surprised me. How could it be almost the end of the year again? How could it be almost Christmas? How could it be Advent again?

The last months moved so quickly and the next will probably do the same. How quickly and frenetic the "pre-Christmas" season can be, getting all the things done, so many places to be, so many cookies to bake. It can seem that this season of Advent is just one more way in which we are expected to do more and give more than we have in the previous year.

These past few years have taken a lot from us. There have been losses: loved ones, jobs, ways of living. There have been strugglings: with each other, our mental health. There have been votes and battles and violence. There certainly has been joy and celebrations, but sometimes it's a lot to carry. And we are carrying it all as we rush into Advent.

Advent is a season of waiting and hoping. What if this season we found moments to wait, to pause, to rest? What if this season we found some moments to stop? I think we all need a chance to rest. It is in rest that we are able to slow down enough to see the hope that comes into our world in sparks, moments, and surprises. It is hope that the way the world is today is not the way it will always be. It is hope that God has come to live among us and showed us through Jesus how to love each other well. It is hope that we can live into that love, bring that love to those around us, and that love is hope.

May you have rest and peace in your Advent season. May you have love and hope.

Waiting, resting, love and hope—may those be the blessings of your Advent season.

Pastor Leanne



## The Messenger

December 2022



### December 4

*prayers for Sarah Erickson-Bhatt & Ruchir Bhatt and Francine Langlais & Ron Blaschuk*

**PLEDGE SUNDAY / LUNCHEON AFTER**

**WORSHIP**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*Esther 4:1-17*

**PLACE SCRIP ORDERS**

**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY**

**FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT 6:30-7:30 PM**

*Tuesday: Bible Study 10 AM*

*Wednesday: PFLAG meeting at 6:30- Aurora Summit*

*Thursday: Morning Brew at Sunnyside 8:30-10*

*Saturday: Carol Sing-Along at St. Mary's 3 PM*

### December 11

*prayers for Don Boychuk & Robert Zondag and Mary Branson*

*Isaiah 42:1-9*

**Coffee Hour**

**ANGEL TREE GIFTS ARE DUE!**

**Monday: Trustees meeting 4 PM**

*Tuesday: Bible Study 10 AM*

*Thursday: Morning Brew at Sunnyside 8:30-10*

**Newsletter deadline**

**6:30 PM Blue Christmas Service at First Cong.**

**UCC Oconomowoc**

### December 18

*prayers for Jessie & John Brinkmann and the Brisk family*

**Matthew 1:18-25**

**Sunday School Mini-Christmas Pageant!!**

**VET BAGS ARE DUE!**

**Special meeting of the congregation to discuss & approve the 2023 budget**

**Monday-Friday: Emmanuel delivers the**

**Dousman Area Home Meals**

*Tuesday: Bible Study at 10 AM*

*Thursday: Morning Brew at Sunnyside 8:30-10*

### December 24 Christmas Eve

#### 5:00 PM Worship

*prayers for Laurie & Buck Buckett and Ann & Bill Carpenter*

**Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Pastor Leanne will be on vacation for the remainder of 2022 until Jan. 9**



## 2023 Stewardship Program

### What does Emmanuel mean to you?

Is it a place where you learn about God through sermons and Bible study?  
Is it a place where you give and receive support?

Is it a place where you enjoy spending time with others while working on a

committee, socializing or participating in an event?

Maybe Emmanuel is your church because it provides opportunities for you to serve others. Whatever reason you have for returning to Emmanuel each time you come, **you are welcomed here!**

### How can you give back to Emmanuel?

Do you have a speaking, singing or artistic talent? Are you good with numbers or the computer? Do you like to work outdoors or have mechanical skills? Perhaps you are a leader, have good ideas and could serve on a board. Whatever your skill might be, be it working "behind the scenes" or "out front and center," **your church needs YOU!**

Sharing your time, talents and gifts is essential in leading a full life. Emmanuel needs your financial support to continue to serve you and others. Please consider a generous pledge to Emmanuel as you fill out your pledge card. We would like pledge cards to be in by December 4. We invite you to join us in a light lunch after church that Sunday.

Thank you!

The Board of Stewards



### BIRTHDAYS

Belle Langreder	1	Mary Ellen Jondle	22
Jan McGraw	5	Jim McGraw	22
Michael Clark	6	Dan Milos	22
Michele Smith	6	Sandy Jarrett	23
Charlotte Voigt	13	Adam Langreder	26
Dick Davidson	17	Craig Berentsen	28
Michael Phelps	20	Maebinn Stack-Vaughn	30

### MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Debbie Morgan	9,	1979	43 years
Lorna & Jere Marheine	12,	1982	40 years
Linda Berlin	18,	2016	6 years

### ORDER



### ON DECEMBER 4TH

Just in time for Christmas, we'll be taking SCRIP orders on December 4<sup>th</sup>. By purchasing your gift card needs through the SCRIP program, you pay face value while the church retains a percentage of the value...

it's a win-win for both you and Emmanuel!

This is a great opportunity to purchase gift cards for your Angel Tree gifts and other Christmas or birthday gifts you may have in mind! Order forms will be emailed out and will be available on the table

next to the name tags on December 4<sup>th</sup>.



### CLEANING THE CHURCH: Kristen Voskuil...others??

Coffee Hour Committee for December 11: Julia Starbuck, Obenbergers, Smiths, Mary Branson

	USHERS	SCRIPTURE READERS	MUSIC KEYBOARD OPERATORS
4	Carol Pfalz	Mary Branson	Jenny Mickel
11	Donna Newland	Nora & Finny Smith	Craig Berentsen
18	Stellings	Francine Langlais	Jenny Mickel
24	Kristen Voskuil	Jeannie Phelan	



### Bags are available in the Gathering Area

Choose a **gift bag** and fill it with items for some of our homeless, lonely, and disabled Veterans. There will be a list of

possible items on each bag that are very much needed such as toiletries, laundromat supplies, gloves, etc. Please mark on the tag whether for Male or Female and please no items are to contain alcohol. Return to church by **December 18**, and they will be delivered to the Chaplain at Zablocki Veterans Center.



THANK YOU to everyone who grabbed a tag off of the Angel Tree...all gifts are already spoken for! Reminder to bring the unwrapped gifts to church by December 11<sup>th</sup>. A box is next to the tree for the gift cards. Please be sure the tag/envelope you took from the tree is attached to your gift or gift card.



## Kettle Moraine Food Pantry

December 4<sup>th</sup> will be our monthly collection for the Kettle Moraine Food Pantry! Please place your donations in the bin located in the foyer.

**All food items must have expiration dates that are at least 6 months away.** It has been brought to our attention that some food donations are not being accepted due to their expiration dates. Items purchased at discount retailers such as dollar stores often expire soon, allowing those retailers to sell them at a lower price, so please be aware.



The United Church of Christ Christmas Fund supports retired clergy and lay staff and surviving spouses in need through regular gifts to supplement their (often Very limited) retirement

incomes through once-a-year "Thank You" checks. It also provides individual grants to clergy in crisis or acute need.

The Christmas Fund is one of the Special Mission Offerings of the UCC. Our congregation supports it with our gifts, because we believe that while the sacrifices clergy and church workers make for their ministries are good for our churches, they can be bad for those professionals' bottom lines. We do it because clergy are as likely to need help as the rest of us. We do it because their service is valuable to us. We do it to say, "thank you."

By giving to the Christmas Fund, you will make sure that UCC pastors and retirees have a place to go for help and support if she/he need it.

UCC retired clergy and lay servants of the church, have spent lifetimes baptizing and blessing, teaching and preaching, marrying and burying, comforting and empowering God's people. By giving generously to the Christmas Fund, we will help retired clergy, church staff,

and their families pay bills, maintain health insurance, and meet emergency needs. Each year our gifts make a difference easing the anxiety of constant financial worries.

In 2021 gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled:

- Monthly pension supplementation for 231 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,104,479).
- Health benefits supplementation for 87 retired clergy and lay employees (\$177,600).
- Emergency grants for 53 individuals and families (\$150,338).
- Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 509 retired clergy and lay employees (\$254,000)

The date for the special offering this year will be Sunday, December 18. If you will not be present on that date, feel free to place your donation in the offering plate on another Sunday or mail it in to the church. Please make checks payable to Emmanuel UCC, PO Box 216, Dousman WI 53118 and mark them for The Christmas Fund. Special offering envelopes will also be available in the Fellowship sign-in pads located in each row of chairs in the Sanctuary.



**Sunday, December 4  
6:30-7:30 PM  
Emmanuel UCC  
Sanctuary**

**The barbershop chorus that's been meeting in our church thanks Emmanuel for the gift of space — with a gift of music!**

**Come hear the exciting new Forward Harmony mixed chorus with the award-winning Midwest Vocal Express men's chorus in a FREE performance.**



**Thursday,  
December 15  
6:30 PM**

**Feeling blue this Christmas? You are not forgotten...**

**The Christmas holidays are a time of joy and celebration, but not for everyone. Maybe you have an empty chair at your table for the first time or it's been empty for years. Blue Christmas is a chance to hold all the mixed emotions, the grief and sorrow into our season. We will remember and reflect, offer prayers and sing songs while in community so you'll know you're not alone.**

**The service is in cooperation with and being held at First Congregational UCC in Oconomowoc with Pastor Leanne participating. The church is located at 815 S. Concord Road.**





## The Great Carol Sing-Along At St Mary's December 10, 3pm

A casual gathering where we will sing your favorite Christmas hymns and songs, and enjoy a variety of beverages and treats. Do you have favorite Christmas hymns or songs you want to make sure we sing? Let Pastor Leanne know ahead of time!



**Join us for Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion at 5 PM.**

**There will be no service at Emmanuel on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. (for those wishing to attend a service on Christmas Day, you are welcome at St. Mary's Episcopal for their 10 AM service.)**



Are you able to help us decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas this year by providing a poinsettia? If you are able, you may bring them in on December 18<sup>th</sup> or the week prior and THANK YOU!



## Budget Meeting

A special meeting of the Congregation will be held following Worship on Sunday, December 18, 2022. We will be discussing and voting on approving the 2023 operating budget. You will receive a copy of the budget on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting, ask questions and offer comments; however, only those who are members are able to cast votes.



Thank you to everyone who provided meals for our Family Promise 'host week' on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

We are helping to make Christmas brighter for a family within the Family Promise program with our Angel Tree again this Christmas. You simply pick a tag off of the tree in the gathering area, purchase a gift and bring it UNWRAPPED with the tag attached (so we know who it goes to) no later than DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>. Thank you for your continued support.

**Giving Tuesday, November 29, 2022** will kick off the Family Promise Home For the Holidays annual fundraising campaign. The campaign will include a challenge grant. The theme focuses on providing a response to the housing crisis. Your gifts will provide a family who is experiencing homelessness a place to find shelter and lay a foundation for their future as well as aid with rent, utility costs, mortgages and car repair assistance.

Please consider helping all the families experiencing homelessness this holiday season.

For more information, visit their website: [www.familypromisewaukeshawi.org](http://www.familypromisewaukeshawi.org)

### MINI-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



**December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Miss Kristen is busy in Sunday School planning a mini-pageant to present to us on December 18<sup>th</sup>...mark your calendars!**



**Advent Event / UWM Planetarium  
Friday-Saturday, December 2-3**

**Want more info?? Email:**

**[PlymouthPastor@gmail.com](mailto:PlymouthPastor@gmail.com)**



THANK YOU for your ongoing support!

We appreciate your ongoing support. Donations may be sent to our P.O. Box address: Emmanuel UCC, P.O. Box 216, Dousman 53118...OR scan our Paypal QR code if you prefer.



Thank you for donating your aluminum cans to our Precious Metals project. Monies received from recycling the cans and other metals benefits Emmanuel's operating budget. (Please leave donations, securely bagged to the left of the garage during snow plowing season.)



Thank you to everyone who has donated their loose change and more to our Singing Bowl to help the R.U.B.I.E.S. Charity. This Wisconsin non-profit has been instrumental in identifying and reaching girls who are at risk of exploitation and sex trafficking. They have a wonderful program that educates, mentors, and restores those victimized by this trauma. So far, we have collected \$ 265.00.

Our December Singing Bowl will go to our own Congregational Care Fund. This fund not only helps people in our community but also families in our church who may need a little assistance with rent, gas, and groceries.



### **We Deliver Meals to the Home-Bound... Won't you help?**

We received this email from our Program Coordinator, Nicole Kerr. It points to the importance of the home delivery meal program...

***A Route 3 client did not answer her door on Monday. The driver then called the emergency contacts but could not reach them. The driver called his route coordinator and she correctly instructed him to call for a police wellness check. The client was discovered to be conscious but had fallen inside of her house! (We do not know a health update, but we know that she is in the hospital but not ICU.)***

***What a blessing this program, the driver and the coordinator are! Thank you to the driver and coordinator for helping our client!***

***To all coordinators and drivers: thank you for all that you do everyday to bless our community! It couldn't be done without all of you!***

As we shared in last month's newsletter, a number of our drivers leave for the winter and covering our delivery schedule becomes a problem without the drivers who remain here driving more than we wish them to. PLEASE, PLEASE consider getting involved in delivering meals. Emmanuel delivers 2 routes every four weeks. Our routes cover the greater Dousman area, Delafield and Wales.

We give you driving directions, so finding your way should not be a problem. If you're more comfortable trying it out with one of the regular drivers before venturing out on your own, we'll gladly arrange that.

Please speak to Donna Newland if you can help out with this very important ministry: 262-965-4022 or [office@seeyouonsunday.org](mailto:office@seeyouonsunday.org). Thank you.

## **This n That...**



- ♥ Our Dousman Home Meals drivers for October and November: Jo Quaden, Laurie Buckett, Kristen Kramer, Shirlene Hazelberg, Kris Davidson, Nansi Hawkins, Charlotte Voigt, Francine Langlais, Ron Blaschuk, Sue Stelling, Barb & John Wood and Kathy Zebrowski.
- ♥ Ushers: Laurie Buckett, Charlotte Voigt, Kristen Voskuil and Debbie Morgan.
- ♥ Scripture Readers: Francine Langlais, Michele Smith, Melissa Gronewold and Ann Carpenter.
- ♥ Keyboard Operators: Jenny Mickle, Craig Berentsen and Steve Thompson.
- ♥ Camera Operators: Melissa Rivera and Mary Branson.
- ♥ Ann Carpenter for leading worship singing each week.
- ♥ Our Coffee Hour Committee for November: Connie Motelet, Sheri Krantz, Laurie Buckett, Jeannie Phelan and Sandy Jarrett.
- ♥ The Smith family and Mary Branson for cleaning the church in November.
- ♥ Tom Stelling, Ron Blaschuk and Gary Phelps for putting up and lighting the sanctuary Christmas tree AND the Lynch family for decorating it!!



- ♥ Fran Pike
- ♥ Those recovering from recent surgeries...Charlotte Voigt's friend, Mary Maselter and Ann Carpenter's aunt Ann (now in hospice care).
- ♥ All of our dear shut-ins, Vera Ortmann and Sharon Logemann.



Please keep these families in your prayers...

Jenny Mickle's father-in-law, Dean Mickle passed away on November

4<sup>th</sup>.

Corrine Mayer's father, Dale Berman, passed away on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Donna Newland's sister, Beverly Rotar, passed away on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Karen Quaden's beloved dog, Stevie, passed away.

## **Thank You!**

**Received from Everytown for Gun Safety (recipient of our Singing Bowl Donations)...**

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$227.74 to Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund made on September 26, 2022. Through your support, you are helping to lead the fight to end gun violence.

## Continuing Opportunities...

### TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES!

10-11 AM in the library

Each week's discussion is independent of the prior week's, so come when you can and join the conversation!

### THURSDAY MORNING BREW!!

December 8, 15 and 22

stop in for a cup of coffee or breakfast  
and chat with Pastor Leanne

Sunnyside Restaurant on Hwy. 67 in Dousman

### HOME-BREWED FAITH

No December event...see you Wednesday, January 25th



Tues	as announced	Bible Study 10-11 AM
Wed	4	PFLAG meeting at Aurora Summit 6:30 PM
Sun	8	Coffee Hour after Worship
Mon	9	Trustees meeting 4 PM
M-F	16-20	Emmanuel delivers the Dousman Area Home Meals
We	25	Home-Brewed Faith discussion at the Delafield Brewhaus, 7-8 PM
Sun	29	Annual Meeting of the Congregation following worship



#### Parkinson's Support Group -

The Shorehaven campus is launching a Parkinson's Support Group beginning Wednesday, Nov. 9 at the Center for Life Enrichment Roehl Auditorium at 1306 W. Wisconsin Ave.,

Oconomowoc. The free interactive sessions will run from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month. Anyone touched by Parkinson's is welcome to attend, including family members and caregivers. Facilitator will be Kira Grosenick, manager of the Shorehaven Strength and Fitness Center, and the group is supported by the Wisconsin Parkinson Association. Beverages will be provided. Call 262-354-1180 for information.

**Alzheimer's Support Group** - The Morning Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group takes place the first and third Tuesday of every month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Center for Life Enrichment, 1306 W. Wisconsin Ave., Oconomowoc. The community-based meetings are open to caregivers or family members whose loved one has been diagnosed with dementia. No registration is required. Beverages provided. For additional information, call Jamie Milaeger at 262-560-6960.

**Grief Share Support Group** is hosted by Wes Werner of Pagenkopf Funeral Home and meets the second Monday of the month from 10 – 11:30am at the Center for Life Enrichment, 1306 W. Wisconsin Ave., Oconomowoc. These free interactive sessions include a DVD video as well as group conversations on a variety of grief-related topics that blend biblical instruction and practical guidance. Call Jill at 262-354-1375 for more information.



New sign-ups have  
been posted for...

- **Coffee Hour Committees**...we ask that everyone who is able participate in one monthly committee. A SignUp Genius will also been created, so you may use that or the paper sign-up in the gathering area.
- **Cleaning Teams**...again, if you are physically able, we ask that you sign up for a month of cleaning the church. Multiple people on each team makes it a less daunting task for everyone. Again, a SignUp Genius will be created, so you may use that method to volunteer if you wish.
- **Letter Writing**...we send weekly letters to our shut-ins along with a copy of the previous Sunday's bulletin and sermon. You need only write one letter and get it to the church office and we will run copies and mail it.

#### AND...

Our governing Council, boards and committees are in the process of seeking new members for 2023. We will need an Assistant Moderator and at least a couple of new people to serve on Trustees, among other positions. We ask that if and when you are approached for any of these positions, you prayerfully consider serving. Your church needs you!

#### What is the Church Council?

Council is made up of the church's officers, Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, etc. along with the chair-persons of each of the Boards: Christian Education, Deacons, Social Concerns, Steward and Trustees. Council meets on the third Sunday of most months to discuss the church's business, make decisions and vote on important matters. While we've outlined the Constitutional make-up of Council above, please know that ANYONE is welcome to attend the meetings and offer comments. Only elected officials are able to vote however.



## Treasurer's Report for October 2022

### PLEDGED Income received

(October 2022)	\$7,670.00
(October 2021)	\$6,480.00
Difference	\$1,190.00

### NON-PLEDGES & PLATE Income Received

(October 2022)	\$909.53
(October 2021)	\$368.00
Difference	\$541.53

Total INCOME for (October 2022) *	\$11,091.36
Total INCOME for (October 2021)	\$9,255.85
Difference	\$1,835.51

Total EXPENSE for (October 2022)	\$11,817.50
Total EXPENSE for (October 2021)	\$14,732.91
Difference	-\$2,915.41

Checking Account Balance as of October 31, 2022	\$7,628.26
Checking Account Balance as of October 31, 2021	\$1,398.62
Difference	\$6,229.64

\*TOTAL INCOME includes funds received for:

Singing Bowl	\$96.83
WI Conference offering income (OCWM, Christmas Fund, etc)	\$890.00
SCRIP sales	\$0.00
Fund Raiser--church rental	\$150.00

RBC Investment Account Growth for October 2022	\$8,424.50
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Please direct questions or comments to Kathy Zebrowski (262-646-8882) or  
Jeannie Phelan (414-940-4464)



**9:30 AM WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY**  
**(also live-streamed on Facebook)**

# CLEAN THE CHURCH