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LEANNE ROSE, PASTOR 262-965-2429  
CHURCH OFFICE 262-965-4022



FROM

PASTOR LEANNE

It's December. Advent has started and we are on our way to Christmas and a whole new year. And it is generally not until after the Christmas gifts have been opened and cards need to be addressed that we think about gratitude after that moment in November.

But I wonder if we could have a different kind of Christmas if we begin and end in gratitude. What if we give time and energy and gifts out of gratitude for the presence of a person in our lives and for the joy they bring? What if we focused our season on gratitude? Would it let allow us to reach out in kindness, move in love, slow down when everything is going fast, and offer gratitude when we feel frustrated?

Perhaps then, gratitude can be part of our way of lives, how we move in the world every day.

I was never very good at those thank you cards after gift giving, despite my mother's best efforts (and she tried). But I want to live in gratitude. I am grateful for you, Emmanuel UCC, for your kindness and generosity. Your appreciation and gratitude for me in October has warmed my heart and gives me even more excitement for the work we're going to do together in the months and years to come.

May all our gratitude lead us to generosity of love and compassion and joy, always, this season and always.

Pastor Leanne

### Saying "YES" is easy!!

In this issue, we have taken some time and space to thank many of the faithful volunteers who fill positions within the church and carry out its work. These positions need to be filled each year. The article includes a brief overview of what each does. If you are approached by one of these people to fill a position in 2024 or beyond, please prayerfully consider saying "YES" !!

Pastor Leanne shared an alarming fact recently...the small churches that are failing are not doing so due to lack of money, but rather lack of volunteers to do the work of the church. Please do not let this happen to Emmanuel!



Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> was Pledge Sunday. Here are the results as of November 19<sup>th</sup>:

\$105,330.00 pledged for general fund

\$5,020.00 pledged for OCWM

THANK YOU CHURCH FAMILY!! Your generosity is amazing. Through your support, we can continue to provide a place of worship, fellowship and spiritual growth for all.

If you have not had an opportunity to turn in your pledge, it's not too late. You may place it in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it in to Emmanuel UCC, PO Box 216, Dousman WI 53118

Board of Stewards,  
Steve Thompson, Francine Langlais,  
Charlotte Voigt, Sue Stelling

## The Messenger



# DECEMBER

2023

### December 3

*prayers for the Stack-Vaughn family and Charlotte Voigt*

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

### HOLY COMMUNION

**Special Meeting of the  
Congregation follows Worship  
Tuesday: Bible Study at 10 AM  
Wednesday: PFLAG meets at**

**Aurora Summit 6:30 PM  
Morning Brew at Sunnyside with  
Pastor Leanne 8:30-10 AM**

### December 10

*prayers for Kristen Voskuil &  
Adam Brandes and  
Betsy & Bill Welch*

### Sunday School Program Coffee Hour

**Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13**

**Monday: Trustees mtg. 4:30 PM**

**Tuesday: Bible Study 10 AM;  
Ladies Fellowship potluck at  
noon**

**Friday: Deadline for January  
newsletter articles**

### December 17

*prayers for Kathy Zebrowski and  
Craig Berentsen & Michael Grant*

**Luke 1:5-13 [114-25] 57-80**

### Special offering for The Christmas Fund

**Deadline to bring Vet Bags &  
Angel Tree gift cards**

**Council meeting after worship  
Monday-Friday: Emmanuel  
delivers the Dousman Home Meals  
Tuesday: Bible Study at 10 AM**

### December 24

*prayers for Francine Langlais &  
Ron Blaschuk and*

*Don Boychuk & Robert Zondag*

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

**No morning service**

### 5 PM Christmas Eve Service with Communion

**Tuesday: Bible Study at 10 AM  
Wednesday: No Home-Brewed  
Faith discussion this month**

### December 31

*prayers for Mary Branson and  
Jessie & John Brinkmann*

**Mark 1:1-20**

### New Years Eve!!

**Tuesday: Bible Study at 10 AM**

# **December** TEAMS

**CLEANING THE CHURCH:** Kristen Voskuil and Mary Branson  
Coffee Hour Committee for December 10th...Julia Starbuck, Mary Branson, the Smith family and Judy St. Martin

	USHERS
3	Debbie Morgan
10	Marheines
17	Shirlene Hazelberg
24	to be determined
31	Kristen Voskuil



**Mary Ellen Jondle will be 102 on December 22<sup>nd</sup>!!**

## BIRTHDAYS

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

## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Debbie Morgan	9,	1979	44 years
Lorna & Jere Marheine	12,	1982	41 years

## THE CHRISTMAS FUND 2024 SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING



They came when we needed them. They answered the phone when we called. They baptized and married and buried our loved ones. They

gave up weekend after weekend to care for our spirits, lead us in worship, and point to God in our midst.

Some of them did it for less money than they could easily live on. They did this because of what they believe who God is, and what they believe about who we are.

For all the sacrifices that clergy and lay church workers have made in our congregations, the UCC Pension Board created the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund, to help support them in retirement and during times of emergency need.

The Christmas Fund provides Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks for retirees and those facing unforeseen financial hardship.

Join with others in the UCC family to make "the light shine in the darkness" for those who have given so much to our church.

The Christmas Fund offering will be taken on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. If you will not be able to attend worship on that day, you may give at any time in December. Please use the special offering envelopes that will be next to the offering plate or mark your check "The Christmas Fund."

Thank you, the Board of Stewards  
Steve Thompson, Francine Langlais, Sue Stelling and Charlotte Voigt



**You will be able to order SCRIP on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>!**  
**Have your Christmas list ready and don't forget this year's Angel Tree gift cards for Family Promise friends...**  
**\$10-\$30 cards for food stores or gasoline.**



**Please help us decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas by bringing a poinsettia to share...any color!**





### Saturday, December 2 – 9 AM – Noon at St. Mary's

Join us to start the season with crafts and cookies for all ages! This event will be held in conjunction with and at St. Mary's Episcopal on the corner of Hwys. 18 & 67.



### Wednesday, December 20 6:00 PM at Emmanuel in conjunction with First Congregational of Oconomowoc

Sometimes the seasons are expected to be so happy and joyful, and sometimes the season is full of mixed feelings, grief, or pain. Join us as we name the feelings and things that make this season of Christmas difficult, and in naming them in community, may they continue we continue to heal.

### Remember Food Pantry Sunday!



We designate the first Sunday of each month as Emmanuel's Food Pantry Sunday. We invite you to bring non-perishable donations for the Kettle Moraine Food Pantry and place them in the bin in the foyer.

THANK YOU to Laurie Buckett for taking our donations to the Pantry each month.



Congratulations on your generosity! We raised \$175.97 for Wildlife in Need. That will buy a lot of animal food and medical supplies for wildlife. The organization also provides education in the schools and for scouts, church and civic groups and our money will provide educational supplies to teach the public.

### Veteran Bags available

We will also have Veterans Bags for you to fill this December for our Homeless Vets with needed toiletries, socks, laundry supplies, scarves, and gloves. Look for a bag in the entry way with a list of supplies for male or female veterans who are in need and bring them back filled by **December 17**. They will be delivered to the Chaplain at Zablocki Medical Center by Kathy Zebrowki and Sandy Horne.



### Angel Tree



We will also be collecting Gift Cards for Family Promise families with our Angel Tree again this year for the Christmas season. Watch for gift tags on our Angel Tree in entry way. Scrip purchased cards for Pick n Save and Gas would be much appreciated this year for young families as Family Promise expands their winter shelter in conjunction with Hebron House. The gift cards ordered through Scrip also benefit our Church as a fundraiser. Purchase your Scrip cards by **December 3** at church. See Mary Branson. The cards should be brought to church by **December 17**.

### ACAP

For December, our charity will continue to be Adaptive Community Approach Program (ACAP). ACAP's mission encourages people



with disabilities to acquire life-long skills that will enable them to become contributing and valued members within their communities. They provide adaptive recreation, education, enrichment, and community service. They are located in Waukesha and besides providing adult daycare, there are opportunities for clients to express themselves artistically such as at Art Links 333, the ACAP Players for theater, and Lifestriders with horse care. There are many events and ways we can support this charity, but our dollars and cents collected in December will be very much needed. Please help by contributing to our Singing Bowl if you can. Thanks as always to a compassionate congregation.





The Emergency Overflow Shelter began mid-November. The same shelter is being used as we have been using since April. The difference is that in addition to 3 families we will also be able to shelter single men and women. Hebron Housing Services will be working with Family Promise to staff and manage this facility. Our first day to provide a meal is November 30. Thanks to all who signed up to provide part of the meal. Please bring this item to church by the morning of November 29.

We also will be helping our families who are in the shelter, the apartment program or the preventive program with Christmas gift cards. This will be done through the Angel Tree that can be found in the Gathering Area at church.

Family Promise has been blessed by your generosity. Thank you!

You are invited to a FREE musical performance of "Amahl and the Night Visitors" on December 3, from 3-4 P.M. This performance will be at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 145 Lisbon Rd, Oconomowoc. Donations will support Family Promise. See the flyer on the Family Promise bulletin board at church.



Many people work behind the scenes helping Emmanuel run...mostly like a well-oiled machine! When you see these people, be sure to THANK them for all the hours they put in to make it happen...

Kathy Zebrowski and Jeannie Phelan are our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. Each month they work to pay the bills, file the necessary reports with the State and IRS, do payroll and make sure everything balances.

Laurie Buckett, Carol Pfalz, Sherri Krantz and Connie Motelet count your donations each week, make bank deposits, keep track of pledges and create statements.

The Board of Trustees oversees maintenance on the building and grounds, as well as the churches finances and creates the yearly operating budget...thank you Tom Stelling, Ron Blaschuk, Peter St. Martin, Rick Rivera, Kathy Zebrowski and Jeannie Phelan.

The Board of Stewards educates the congregation on the four special UCC offerings throughout the year and plans the annual pledge drive and luncheon...thank you Charlotte Voigt, Sue Stelling, Francine Langlais and Steve Thompson.

The Board of Social Concerns along with Pastor Leanne choose the monthly Singing Bowl Missions along with planning the yearly Angel Tree and Vet Bag projects...thank you Shirlene Hazelberg, Sherri Krantz and

Kathy Zebrowski and Sandie Horne who deliver the Vet Bags to the Veteran's Hospital.

The Board of Deacons schedules the Ushering and Communion Prep Teams and oversees membership...thank you Kristen Voskuil and Kathy Zebrowski who sends out the get-well and sympathy cards as needed.

The Board of Christian Education oversees Sunday School and Confirmation along with Pastor Leanne....thank you Kristen Voskuil and Peggy Hazelberg. Also thank you to Kristen Voskuil, Peggy & Vivian Hazelberg for teaching Sunday School.

Family Promise...THANK YOU Charlotte Voigt, Sue Stelling and Shirlene Hazelberg for being our volunteer coordinators and staffing the Shelter.

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee meets with Pastor Leanne on occasion to insure everything is going smoothly. If problems arise within the congregation, members are urged to go to a Committee member and talk to them about it and if needed, they will meet with the congregant and Pastor Leanne to resolve the issues. Thank you Francine Langlais, Sue Stelling and Carol Pfalz for serving in this capacity in 2023.

## Continuing Opportunities...



**TUESDAY MORNINGS**  
**10-11 AM in the library**  
**Each week the Scripture for the following Sunday is discussed.**

**THURSDAY MORNING BREW!!**  
**FIRST THURSDAYS ONLY!**



**December 7th**  
**stop in for a cup of coffee or breakfast and chat**  
**with Pastor Leanne**  
**Sunnyside Up Restaurant on Hwy. 67 in Dousman**

**NO HOME-BREWED FAITH DISCUSSION**  
**in December**



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. Please be aware that the church does not receive 100% of your donation via Payal. An administration fee is deducted from our receipt.



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. When the snow starts flying, please place your bags of cans to the left of the garage service door so they don't get plowed away...thank you.



♥ Jeannie Phelan, Ann Carpenter and Erika Weiss for helping Pastor Leanne select hymns for our Sunday worship.

♥ Our Dousman Home Meals drivers Jo Quaden, Barb & John Wood, Kathy Zebrowski, Kathy Bleecker-Piirto, and Sue Stelling

- ♥ November Ushers Kristen Voskuil, Lorna & Jere Marheine, Donna Newland and Carol Pfalz.
- ♥ Scripture Readers...Mary Branson, Steve Thompson, Michelle Smith and Jeannie Phelan.
- ♥ Camera Operator: Melissa Rivera
- ♥ Ron Blaschuk, Tom Stelling and Jere Marheine for repairing the lighting on the front sign.
- ♥ Michael Clark & Mary Branson for purchasing the water for our water coolers.
- ♥ Ann Carpenter and Christy Lui for leading worship singing.
- ♥ Debbie Morgan for cleaning the church in November.
- ♥ The Board of Stewards: Charlotte Voigt, Francine Langlais, Sue Stelling and Steve Thompson for hosting the November 12<sup>th</sup> Pledge Luncheon.
- ♥ Lorna Marheine for sending in our Sentry receipts so that we get our rebate!!



- ♥ Laurie Buckett
- ♥ Fran Pike
- ♥ Mary Ellen Jondle
- ♥ Gregg Jarrett

- ♥ Pastor Leanne's sister, Jessica
- ♥ All of our dear shut-ins including Vera Ortmann and Betsy & Bill Welch.



Mon	1	New Years Day..welcome 2024!
Tues	Each	Bible Study, 10 AM
Wed	3	PFLAG meets at Aurora Summit, 6:30 PM
Sunday	7	Epiphany observed Holy Communion / Food Pantry Sunday
Mon	8	Trustees meeting 4:30 PM
Tues	9	Ladies Fellowship meeting, 1-3 PM
M-F	15-19	Emmanuel delivers the Dousman Area Home Meals
Sunday	21	Council meeting after Worship
Sunday	28	Annual Meeting of the Congregation after Worship
Wed	31	Home-Brewed Faith Discussion at Rosati's



Dear folks at Emmanuel UCC,  
Thank you for the generous \$50 gift card. Mowing the yard with Tom Stelling is always a pleasure and I look forward to doing it again in 2024.

God Bless You!  
Rod Podszus

**(Rod is a former member of Emmanuel and continues a friendship with the Stellings and others at Emmanuel. We gift him with a little something each year in appreciation of all the hours he spends mowing with Tom (or without Tom!!))**

Emmanuel United Church of Christ,  
Dousman's first Halloween on Main was a great success thanks to the support of local organizations like you. Thank you for your generous sponsorship of this event. We brought hundreds into Dousman thanks to your support.

Thank you,  
Dousman Chamber of Commerce



## Treasurer's Report for October 2023

### PLEDGED Income received

(October 2023)	\$9,995.00
(October 2022)	\$7,670.00

Difference	\$2,325.00
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### NON-PLEDGES & PLATE Income Received

(October 2023)	\$172.50
(October 2022)	\$909.53

Difference	-\$737.03
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Total INCOME for (October 2023) *	\$11,767.74
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Total INCOME for (October 2022)	\$11,091.36
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Difference	\$676.38
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Total EXPENSE for (October 2023)	\$26,686.09
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Total EXPENSE for (October 2022)	\$11,817.50
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Difference	\$14,868.59
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Checking Account Balance as of October 31, 2023	\$3,416.36
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Checking Account Balance as of October 31, 2022	\$7,628.26
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Difference	-\$4,211.90
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\*TOTAL INCOME includes funds received for:

Singing Bowl	\$95.24
WI Conference offering income (OCWM, Christmas Fund, etc)	\$650.00
SCRIP sales	\$0.00
Fund Raiser	\$330.00

RBC Investment Account Growth for October 2023	-\$3,726.19
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Please direct questions or comments to Kathy Zebrowski (262-646-8882) or  
Jeannie Phelan (414-940-4464)



# December

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9 AM – Noon Family Craft Event at St. Mary's																																																																																				
<b>3</b> HOLY COMMUNION ORDER SCRIP Special meeting of the Congregation follows Worship 3-4 PM see Family Promise news for FREE event	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10 AM Bible Study	<b>6</b> 6:30 PM PFLAG meets at Aurora Summit Hospital	<b>7</b> 8:30-10 AM Morning Brew with Pastor Leanne @ Sunnyside	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>																																																																																				
<b>CLEAN THE CHURCH</b>																																																																																										
<b>10</b> Sunday School Christmas Program  Coffee Hour	<b>11</b> 4:30 PM Trustees meeting	<b>12</b> 10 AM Bible Study 12 PM Ladies Fellowship Christmas Potluck	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 	<b>16</b> 7 PM Forward Harmony Christmas Concert at Pewaukee High School																																																																																				
<b>17</b> Vet Bag & Angel Tree Deadline  Special offering for the Christmas Fund  Council meeting after Worship	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10 AM Bible Study	<b>20</b> 6 PM Blue Christmas Service at Emmanuel	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>																																																																																				
<b>CLEAN THE CHURCH</b> Emmanuel delivers Dousman Area Home Meals																																																																																										
<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE No morning Worship  5 PM Christmas Eve Worship & Communion	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b> 10 AM Bible Study	<b>27</b> No Home- Brewed Faith this month	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>																																																																																				
<b>31</b>	<b>November 2023</b> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					<b>January 2024</b> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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