

Immanuel United Church of Christ

January 2011

Rev. Howard Reed
Interim Pastor
Cell # 713-870-1943

Rev. George R. Kuebler
Pastor Emeritus

Shay Meyer
Director Christian Ed

Andrew Moses
Organist

Leanne Bourgeois
Church Secretary

Church Office
979-793-6125

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979-793-6199

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Interim Insights and Farewell

What a privilege it has been to serve God among the members and friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ since mid-October. There is so much evidence of faith in God moving mountains and growing tall bushes from tiny mustard seeds through the fruits of the spirit in this congregation. You have cared for me, and listened to me, in wonderful ways that have strengthened me to care for you and share God's Word with you. I ask you to forgive any weaknesses or errors I have shown or committed as your interim pastor.

One of the concerns I have on leaving is for a renewed desire and trust about observing and following the constitution freely approved by this congregation regarding all aspects of your common life.

There was wisdom in previously having documented how you have agreed to govern the church, and if, though convenience or the polite desire not to hurt anyone's feelings you choose to diverge from the constitution then some voice of one crying in the wilderness needs to be heard and heeded to reclaim direction.

There are covenants about how consistory members are chosen that should be understood and followed for the best leadership of the church.

There are relationships with the family roots and denomination of the church that need to be strengthened, and the repair of which may be seen wisely in the light of the famous prayer of St. Francis: "... grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

But my long experience in Christian ministry has taught me that change that is effective and lasting occurs only slowly and over extended periods of time, not quickly, no matter how impatient we may become; and no matter how misled we may be by other voices that make false promises of quick solutions to long-term problems. On Robert Frost's gravestone is written: "I had a lover's quarrel with the world." A "lover's quarrel" refers to one which is dramatic, and perhaps long, but which is often restored through GRACE, forgiveness, mercy, and all the selflessness that can come from love.



His wife Elinor's epitaph is: "Together wing to wing and oar to oar." (Note the iambic pentameter—you English majors!) Yet Robert Frost and his wife both suffered depression that caused estrangement between them. Further, they had six children, three of whom died before Elinor died (and a *fourth* before Robert died in 1963). It was said she blamed her husband for contributing to the death of one of the children.

Just so, in all important, lengthy, and committed relationships there are very significant challenges and conflicts which arise or exist—even if denied by the parties—and which greatly need the air and light that comes beginning with naming them, in order for people to be redeemed and healed. It is healthy and scriptural to name our ailments and have them treated. We remember Jesus said, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick." Luke 19:10. "For the Son of Man came to save that which was lost."

There are so many rich experiences and joys and treasures, as well as sorrows and troubles that I cannot, but wish I *could* share, with you, if we had had more time, in the name of the One about whom Isaiah's prophecy declares, "He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." THAT description of our Savior, among the many we have in scripture, has often been so deeply meaningful and significant to me. I sincerely do REJOICE—ironically—that my Savior is "A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." I wouldn't want any other kind of Savior. It has helped me to be a joyous Christian—I hope others see—even if a Christian who is about the farthest thing from "happy clappy" that one could possibly be.

May your God-given faith, and your love for the church universal throughout the world, continue to help you to move mountains—those formidable spiritual impediments that rise up to block all our progress as pilgrims along the way of Christ—as you grow and knit a new relationship with a new pastoral shepherd and leader and ambassador of Christ. As Paul wrote to the Philippians: "Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart." (*The Message: the Bible in Contemporary Language*, Eugene Peterson)

Yours in faith, hope, and love—

Howard

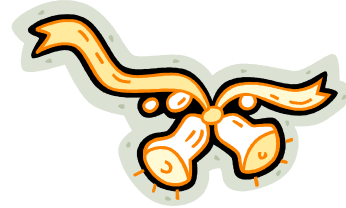
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 David Dick, Jr.
Ray Oberhoff | 18 Connor Baker |
| 3 Hayden Meyer
Sandy Beard | 19 Derek Lindemann
Madelyn Griffith
Natalie Miller
Ruth Vallet
Wendy Raesner |
| 4 Joan Wendt | 20 Christopher Marecka |
| 5 Thomas Roehe | 21 Bridget Goodbread
Hudson Goodbread
Kylie Gage
Rudy Paweleck
Sage Hlavaty |
| 7 Joshua Miller
Kyle Raesner | 23 Breck Sacra
Darlene Mensik |
| 8 Amy Pohler
Bryan Fuchs
Macale Ellis
Shirley Wendt | 24 Anna Gadway |
| 9 Brooks Baker
Pauletta Klemstein
Vanessa Miller | 25 Yvonne Lingnau |
| 10 Clarence Warncke, Jr.
Michelle Kostelnik | 26 Ray Winkelman |
| 11 Becky Reeh
Kasey Hawkins
Tina Holik | 27 David Thielemann
Elvina Loehr
Leighann Wedegartner |
| 12 Sheila Elster | 28 Monica Hurta |
| 13 Debbie Legendre
Leah Hernandez
Ricky Raesner | 29 Belinda Macik
Sherrie Schmidt |
| 14 Kevin Lovel | 30 John Crosby
Lona Mae Miller
Olivia Tiemann |
| 15 Mike Nulisch | 31 Wayne Schmidt |
| 16 Dana Hawkins
Ruby Poncik
Tiffany Schnettler | |
| 17 Blake Gerken | |



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 JOE & DONNA GREGORY
- 11 HERBERT & LILLIE RICHTER
DARRIN & JACEY HEDT
- 12 FRANK & IRMA GORKA
- 14 PERRY & SHERRIE McCONNELL
- 17 WC & KAREN TODD
- 19 TONY & KRISTI NOVOSAD
- 23 BROOKS & SHELLEY BAKER



THANK YOU REVEREND REED!

As we prepare to ring in a New Year and welcome a new minister to Immanuel, we would like to take this opportunity to graciously thank our Interim Minister, Reverend Reed for stepping up during our interim phase and blessing us with his gift of ministry.

Your help has been greatly appreciated and the church family asks for God's blessings over you and your family as you continue on your Christian journey.

Thank You!

2010 GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2010 Giving Statements will be available by mid-January. Please contact the church office @ 793-6125 if you would like to receive yours.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting is in the process of being scheduled. It will either be scheduled for Sunday, January 16th or Sunday, January 30th.
More information to come!

FOOD PANTRY HELP NEEDED!

The Food Pantry, housed here at Immanuel, is in dire need of BOXES!!! If you have any medium to slightly larger ("easy to carry") boxes you would like to get rid of please drop them by the church office. Copy paper boxes work great!!!!

Also, if anyone is interested we could use help stocking the pantry and making up food boxes. We can have anywhere from 3-8 people per day coming in for food and having the boxes already made up helps speed the process along. If you would like to help please just contact the church office!!! Thank you in advance for your help!

Confirmation Class to Learn About Judaism and the Holocaust

The confirmation class will experience Jewish religious life first hand by attending services in one of two nearby Reform temples soon. We will also visit the Holocaust Museum of Houston. The schedule offers options for January 6-8th.

Christianity is intimately linked to Judaism, as branches are connected to roots, according to St. Paul in Romans. And as we live in a nation where religious freedom guaranteed, and in a world of increasing NEED for inter-FAITH understanding and knowledge, this portion of our confirmation course is crucial.

Members are asked to attend either Thursday and Friday night, Jan. 6th and 7th, OR Saturday January 8th. On Thursday, January 6th, we depart IUCC at 4:00 p.m. for the Holocaust Museum of Houston, which is open from 5 to 8 p.m. We will return to Needville by 9:30 p.m.

On Friday, January 7th we depart IUCC at 5:00 p.m. to visit the congregation of my friend, Rabbi Steven Gross, at Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism. They have a dinner that night (\$5 per person) followed by a service at 7:15 p.m. during which one of their youth will be fulfilling a requirement of her Bat Mitzvah by leading part of the service. We will return to Needville by 10:00 p.m.

Those who choose the Saturday, January 8th option will depart IUCC at 10:00 a.m. to visit the main Sabbath service at Temple Beth Israel at 11:00. After the service we will have lunch, then go to the Holocaust Museum of Houston from 1 p.m. till 3 p.m., returning to Needville by 4:30 p.m.

I request parents to let me know about your student's attendance, and also your availability and willingness to help with transport. Other family members and any church members are invited for the Saturday visit, but the Friday night service is in a smaller synagogue and they can only accommodate the confirmands and adult chaperons.

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

December 5	261
December 12	257
December 19	132
December 24	401
December 26	86

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

January 2	Dalton Novak, Cooper Weatherly
January 9	William Schodek, Justin Winkelman
January 16	Landon Schultz-Zwahr, Tucker Novosad
January 23	Ainsley Otto, Ryann Kolkmeier
January 30	Craig Todd, Chance Legendre

2011 Sunday School Teacher Schedule

	<u>January</u>
Nursery	Cyndi Teykl
Nursery	Shawn Winkelman
K-1	Amy Bosse
2-3	Tammey Miller
4-5	Stacey Schodek
6-7	Leslie Kolkmeier
Confirmation	Cris Meyer
High School	Shay Meyer
Adult 1	Becky Oberhoff/JoAnn Morton

YOUTH CLUB SNACKS

January 5	Becky Reeh
January 12	Kim Fredrickson
January 19	Shawn Thielemann
January 26	Shelley Baker

YOUTH CLUB MEALS

January 5	Victoria Schultz
January 12	Kelly Dunk
January 19	Kristi Archer
January 26	Amy Bosse

CAMP NEWS!

Confirmation

February 4th-6th, 2011

Confirmation Camp. Early Bird Registration Cost is \$85.00 and forms must be turned in to Shay no later than, Friday, January 14th. This camp is opened to all Confirmands. Flyers are posted in the education hallway and in the Sanctuary...or...see Shay details.

6th, 7th, & 8th Graders (with exception of Confirmands...see above)

February 4th-6th, 2011

Chi Rho Mid-Winter Rally. Forms must be turned in to Shay Meyer by no later than Thursday, January 20th. This camp is opened to 6th, 7th and 8th graders, **BUT, confirmation will be on their confirmation retreat during these same dates.** Cost is \$35.00, flyers are posted in the education hallway and in the Sanctuary...or...see Shay for details.

9th-12th Graders

February 25th-27th, 2011

CYF Mid-Winter Rally. Forms must be turned in to Shay Meyer by no later than Wednesday, February 9th. This camp is opened to all High School Youth (9th-12th). Cost is \$45.00, flyers are posted in the education hallway and in the Sanctuary...or...see Shay for details.

Y o u r P o s t i n g s !
(K i n d e r g a r t e n - 1 2 ^{t h})
January 2011

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade:

Singing it out! Our little choir is still going strong and we are having a great time. The cost is still only \$1/Wednesday to help with the cost of snacks, so if your **Kindergarten thru 3rd grader** hasn't yet joined us, now is the time.

Settegast Heights follow-up:

As we unloaded Christmas gifts and unloaded and unloaded and unloaded some more, I thought about how happy the kids were going to be when they saw so many presents for them. With one whole room pretty full of goodies from not only our church but others as well, it was a good feeling to know we were fulfilling a deep need. In attendance and witnesses to the greatness we spread were **Reese Fredrickson, Ryan Fredrickson** and their parents, **Ike and Kim Fredrickson**. Also there was **Debby Wendt, Irene, Ainsley, and Emmi Otto, Lita Meyer and myself**. I know all of us were touched in different ways. The following people made sandwiches and cookies so that we could feed their stomachs as well as their hearts. Many thanks to all of them as well. **Carol Bosse, Shirley Wendt, Teresa Bosse, Carol & Kelsey Gerken, Marla Sebesta, Erin Sebesta and Nathan Gaskamp** deserve huge kudos for taking **Chase Miller, Makenzie Raesner, Landon Schultz-Zwahr, Cooper Weatherly, & Tucker Novosad** shopping for quite a bundle of gifts for the Settegast Heights families. What I can not list are all the people that "adopted" a child from our Settegast Heights tree and who donated the money or actual gifts for us to be able to brighten the lives of these children if even for one day. Thanks to all of you as well!

Christmas Program follow-up:

How about those Confirmands???! They have played several times since starting their journey for the year and we were blessed to have them playing on the 5th and the 12th of December for all of us. Also on the 5th we had the young choir sing a few songs for us and the on the 12th we had everyone from nursery on up to high school in the program! How about those kiddos sharing the birth of Christ with us in the form of spoken word, traditional music, a tad bit of acting, and a REAL LIVE BAND? I was super proud of them for sticking with us and seeing it through even though we were far from a theatrical group. Many thanks for those of you that said silly lines, wore weird stuff, and/or played your instrument for the sake of the program as a whole!!! Hehehe As far as helpers go, these people are tops in my Christmas thanks you's (in no particular order)...**Stacey Schodek, Nancy Urbanek, Dena Dick, Kim Fredrickson, Sharon Graeber, Suzanne Mikeska, Leslie Kolkmeier, Kelly Dunk, Shae Blazier, Chase Miller, Carol Gerken, Amy Bosse, Casey Chapman, Marla Sebesta, Robin Eversole, Debbie Legendre, Debby Wendt, Jo Ann Morton, Becky Oberhoff, all who helped with cookies/punch and the Jolly Red Man** of course! **If I have left out anyone, PLEASE let me know because it is my intention to catch everyone and give them due praise.**

Food/Toy Drive & Christmas Party (High School) follow-up:

I was so disappointed that we could not participate (due to circumstances beyond our control) in our usual hands on mission of unloading food, sorting it, filling food baskets and helping parents pick out toys for their children like we do every year, BUT what we DID get to do was spend some quality time together at a local restaurant and thinking about what we could do to help those in less fortunate positions than maybe ourselves. We heard prayer requests and parted for Christmas and New Year's break hopefully thinking about others. I know at least some of them did because this past Sunday our high school class shared some great stories of doing just that. The feeling of giving and not just getting, the love of "love" itself and not the love of gifts. We were created to be like God himself! Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them". Ephesians 2:10 is "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do". Ephesians 4:24 is "and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness". And finally I searched and found Colossians 3:10, which says to us, "and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator". Is it safe to say that we're probably not there yet; that we are a work in progress? But I strongly believe that every time we give of ourselves with nothing expected in return I feel a little closer to attaining that final goal. Join with me and make a conscious effort to seek out those that need a lift, a gift or a shoulder in the coming weeks. Christmas and it's aftermath isn't always happy for everyone, but we can help make it better for those around us by sharing what we know about our pending salvation and possibly a physical gift that someone else could use more than ourselves.

Notes:

- ~Don't forget to friend Immanuel United Church of Christ~Needville on FaceBook and me too!
- ~It is absolutely imperative that each and every one of you have a safe and Happy New Year! I can't wait to see what 2011 has to offer for each of us individually and as a whole congregation!
- ~Parents please check the newsletter for your meal assignments. Thanks for being willing to pitch in and feed our youth J.

Happy 2011 and much love, Shay-Shay

Questions, comments concerns? shay@meyerranch.net, (832) 595-4028 cell. Feedback always welcome. Thanks!

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2 Sunday School 9:00am Worship/Communion 10:15am	3 Worship/Evang 7:00pm	4 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm MDO Board 7:00pm	5 YOUTH GROUP K-3rd Choir 4-5:30 4th-5th 4-5:30 6th, 7th, Conf. 6-7:30 High School 6:30-8:30	6 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm	7	8
9 WELCOME REV. SCHWARTZ! Sunday School 9:00am Worship/SS Perf. Attend 10:15am	10 Consistory 7:00pm	11 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm	12 YOUTH GROUP K-3rd Choir 4-5:30 4th-5th 4-5:30 6th, 7th, Conf. 6-7:30 High School 6:30-8:30	13 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:00am Worship/AB Celebration 10:15am Requart Reunion 11-4	17 NISD Holiday	18 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm Grace Food Distribution	19 Sr. Social @ Meth. 1:30p YOUTH GROUP K-3rd Choir 4-5:30 4th-5th 4-5:30 6th, 7th, Conf. 6-7:30 High School 6:30-8:30	20 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm Brotherhood @ Schulze's 6:30p	21 Women's Guild 2:00pm	22 Scout Pinewood Derby 8am Scout Adult Dinner 3-7
23 SR. CITIZEN FUNDRAISER	24 Mission/ Outreach 7:00p	25 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm	26 YOUTH GROUP K-3rd Choir 4-5:30 4th-5th 4-5:30 6th, 7th, Conf. 6-7:30 High School 6:30-8:30	27 Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30pm	28	29
30 Winkelman Shower 1-4	31					

BROTHERHOOD

The Brotherhood will be meeting on January 20, 2011 at 6:30 at Schulze's Barbeque in Rosenberg. All men (young and old) are invited and encouraged to attend! This is a great opportunity for some fun and fellowship! We hope to see you there!

FINANCIAL REPORT - MONTHLY

December 1 thru December 27, 2010

RECEIPTS:

Weekly Offering	\$ 16,781.00
Loose Offering	1,073.30
Church School Offering	78.05
Building Use	200.00
Stewardship Offering	550.00
MDO/Payroll Tax	352.44
Alliance/Payroll Tax	116.26
Bulletin Sponsor	100.00
Food Pantry	200.00
Pennies for Missions	82.65
Christmas Fund Offering	143.00
Upper Room	13.00
Christmas Eve Offering	3,749.00
Marketplace/Donation of ticket printing	95.00
Marketplace/silent auction	7.00
Initial Offering	3.00
copier donations	5.00
Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries	135.00
Transfer/Memorial Fund (Balance/door installation)	1,461.49
Transfer/Search Fund(moving expense,etc.)	3,330.46
Transfer/Bldg. Fund (full repayment/parking lot loans)	30,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	\$ 58,475.65

INCOME - OTHER ACCOUNTS

Building Fund	Parking Lot \$9810, Env. \$230, Memorial \$60	\$ 10,100.00
Organ Fund		90.00
Cemetery Fund		375.00
Memorial	(Poinsettia Mem.-\$189)	504.00
TOTAL INCOME - OTHER ACCOUNTS		\$ 10,565.00

PARKING LOT - UPDATE

Balance, 11-30-10	\$ 21,192.70
December Donations	9,810.00
Balance, 12-27-10	31,002.70
Full Loan Repayment, 12-27-10	(30,000.00)
Difference/placed in Bldg. Fund for other improvements	1,002.70

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS PARKING LOT DONATIONS!!!!!!!!!!
ALL LOANS REPAYED IN JUST UNDER 5 MONTHS!! Thanks to those individuals
who made interest free loans and thanks again to Tracy Gerken who finished
under contract \$10,951!!!!!!!!!!

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING (to date) \$4,437, OCWM \$100

CROP WALK

The Crop Walk is being held on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at George Ranch Historical Park. If you would like to participate please see Debby Wendt or contact her at 281-239-5809.

A NEW MINISTER HAS BEEN CALLED!!

The Search Committee is pleased to announce that a new Sr. Minister has been called to serve Immanuel United Church of Christ!

The Reverend Doctor Thomas Schwartz has been selected, and voted on by the congregation, to become the next Sr. Minister. Dr. Thomas Dale Schwartz is a Disciple of Christ minister from Morris, Oklahoma. Tom is a 44 year old single father to his son, Patrick and will start his ministry at IUCC beginning the week of January 2, 2011. We believe that Tom is the ideal minister to lead Immanuel for many years to come. The excerpt below was written by Tom:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,

It is an understatement to write that I am very excited about the possibility of joining with you in your faithful and life-transforming ministry on behalf of our Savior and Lord.

During my telephone and personal conversations with the search committee, as well as my recent visit to Needville and the surrounding area, I have been most favorably impressed by the mission and work of Immanuel United Church of Christ. I am convinced that the congregation has a future that is exceedingly bright, even as its history of outreach and service is exceptional. My discussions with the South Central Conference minister, the Rev. Douglas Anders, have only deepened and strengthened these convictions.

My ministry as a pastor is guided by a simple but important statement: "If it doesn't make a difference on Monday, it wasn't worth doing on Sunday." I believe with all of my heart, mind, and soul that the Christian faith has positive, practical applications for our daily lives. I endeavor to effectively communicate that truth in sermons that are both biblically faithful and practically relevant. And I pray that God gives me the grace to demonstrate that truth in all of my thoughts, words, and deeds.

I look forward to meeting each of you soon. Thank you for giving so generously of your talent, your time, and your treasure, for it is your past and present service to Immanuel that has made it the really and truly outstanding church that it is. May God bless you abundantly, exceedingly, above all that you can ask or think!

Your fellow servant,

Tom

The Search Committee would like to thank you for your thoughts and prayers during the search process, and ask each of you to help warmly welcome Dr. Schwartz into the Immanuel Church family.

IUCC CONSISTORY MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2010

President Bobby Zwahr called the meeting to order with Rev. Reed opening with a prayer. Absent were Clint Mikeska and Bruce Oberhoff.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 8, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: The checking balance as of 11-30-10 was \$7,931.43 and it was filed for audit. Erna Thielemann addressed the consistory with the concern of training someone to learn the financial secretary position. Training in Quickbooks and Excel are necessary requirements to this position.

A discussion about OCWM support and some of the stands of the National UCC office that are not supported by IUCC was held in response to Rev. Reed's letter to more fully support OCWM. The consistory requested that Rev. Reed find out more about the plans for the Christmas Food Baskets and the Friday meals for Senior Citizens at the Needville Ministerial Alliance meeting. The Director of Christian Education Report was reviewed.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds: David Thielemann will be putting in the new front doors on December 14th. Bobby Zwahr is still checking into possible coverings for the front steps.

Worship/Evangelism: The Christmas Eve candles are in.

Christian Education: The committee is looking for new members for the coming year.

Mission & Outreach: The possibility of a summer mission trip was discussed.

Search Committee: The moving costs are \$2,500 and the Criminal Background Check reimbursement is \$140 for Rev. Schwartz. There is no longer a need to put money in the account.

Old Business: The A/C Maintenance Plan does not have another bid yet.

New Business: The Budget Committee presented their proposed budget for 2011. There was a line item discussion of the budget. Consistory made some suggestions on salaries, mission & outreach funding, and nursery care during church. The proposed budget will be sent back to the committee.

Some concerns were brought up in the meeting. Moving the bell choir to the opposite side of the church would widen the aisle where there are so many walkers giving everyone more room. Bruce Oberhoff sent an email since he could not be at the meeting with some concerns on Rev. Reed's letter about OCWM budgeting. Karen Gadway and Ray Winkelman forwarded questions through consistory members about the use of the fellowship hall for basketball with their children.

Rev. Schwartz's Housing Allowance would be paid on January 1st to allow him to move down and get established. Rev. Reed would fulfill his contract and stay until January 11th helping Rev. Schwartz get settled and taking care of visitations. Bobby Zwahr would announce in church that volunteers are needed for the outgoing consistory positions.

Christmas bonuses for the staff were discussed. A motion was made by Kelly Dunk and seconded by Leslie Kolkmeier to distribute the bonuses. Motion was voted on and passed. In Wider Missions, Cris Meyer made a motion to give OCWM \$3,000. Kelly Dunk seconded the motion and motion passed. Three building use requests were approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Gerken, Secretary

Immanuel Women's Guild

The Immanuel Women's Guild met on Thursday, December 16, 2010 with 13 members and 12 guests present. President Richter welcomed all. A roast beef meal was served with the officers furnishing the dessert.

Olie Eixmann gave the program. It was the story of the birth of Jesus taken from verses of Luke. Several members read the scripture, following each reading by the singing of appropriate hymns. Lariese Meyen played the organ. Olie also read the story of Eric.

President Richter called the meeting to order. The secretary was absent because of a Dr's appointment. Erna Thielemann gave the treasurer's report.

Old Business: Erna Thielemann reported all poinsettias were sold and are in the sanctuary.

New Business: A motion was made by Viola Fuchs to give \$200. to Eden Seminary and to give \$200. to the Parking Lot fund. Motion approved by all.

The 2010-2011 Women's Guild Yearbooks were distributed.

Ruby Poncik sent 52 cards to the elderly and shut-in this Christmas Season from the Guild.

Celebrating birthdays in December were: Hester Bain, Carol Bosse, Erna Thielemann and Geraldine Winkelman. Over 90 was Lottie Gerken who was 97. Celebrating anniversaries were Teresa and Reverend Banda. Over 60 years were Ruby Lee and Albin Oberhoff who were married 67 years.

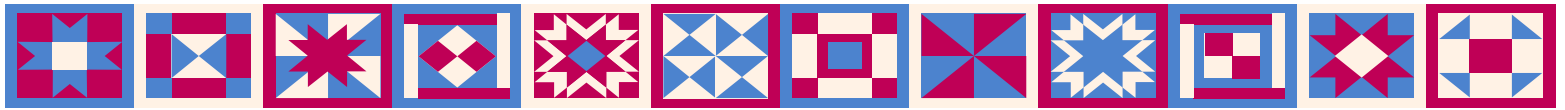
Prayer concerns for Julius and Jeanette Balcerowicz, Marilyn Dillard, Roy and Barbara Steffen, Steven Horak, Alberta Steffen, Frank and Caroline Macik, Albin Oberhoff and David and Tammy Miller.

Meeting was closed by singing "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds", and praying the "Lord's Prayer".

Jeanette Balcerowicz, Secretary

PARKING LOT – DEBT FREE

Thanks to an anonymous Christmas donor, Immanuel UCC is now debt free on its \$40,000. loan for the paving of our back parking lot. Every gift, no matter the size along with our Marketplace proceeds made this dream possible. Our gratitude to each one! We are deeply grateful to the members who provided these loans to us interest free. The loans were all repaid December 27, 2010 in just under five months. REMARKABLE!! IMMANUEL YOU HAVE STEPPED UP AGAIN WHEN THERE IS A NEED!!! Another BIG THANK YOU goes to Tracy Gerken who had the contract and finished under contract \$10,951. WHAT A GIFT? God has truly blessed Immanuel with these generous gifts and givers. Truly, a great finale to 2010!!!!



12th ANNUAL
LEROY MIKSCH MEMORIAL
SR. CITIZEN FUNDRAISER
Sponsored by the Needville Ministerial Alliance

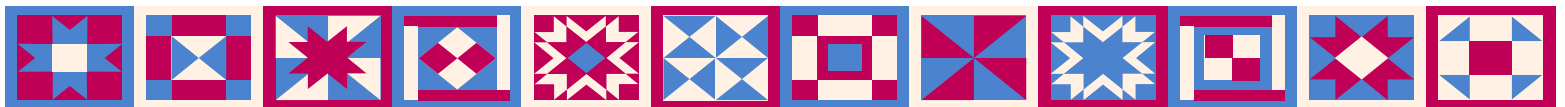
Sunday, January 23rd, 2011
KC HALL, NEEDVILLE

Fried Chicken w/all the Trimmings
9.00/plate...Serving begins @ 10:30am

LIVE AUCTION WITH SHORTY YEAMAN BEGINS @ NOON
For Additional Information Please Call 979-793-4313



Quilt Raffle Tickets on Sale @ Immanuel Church, Amegy Bank, New First National Bank, Kinfolks Antiques,
Prosperity Bank and Other Local Businesses. Contact 979-793-6125 for More Information.



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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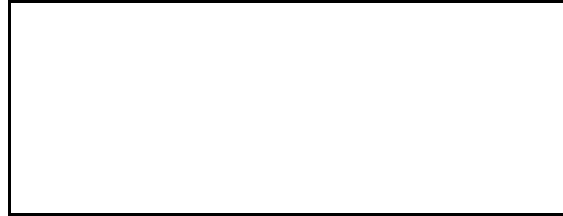
PERMIT NO. 1

NEEDVILLE, TX

77461

ZIP PRESORT/BARCODE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Newsletter

2011



Happy New Year!