



Immanuel United Methodist Church

401 W Fond du Lac Street
Ripon, WI 54971

open hearts... open minds... open doors...

the people of the United Methodist Church

Rev. Paul Nulton, Pastor

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

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Rev. Nulton's cell phone number (920) 202-4420

**The mission of Immanuel United Methodist Church is making
and being disciples for Jesus Christ.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship Service at 8:00 am

Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 am

More Contemporary Worship Service at 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Soup and Sandwich Supper 5:00 p.m.

Praise 1 Service 5:30 pm

Praise 2 Bible Study 6:30 pm

April 2008 newsletter

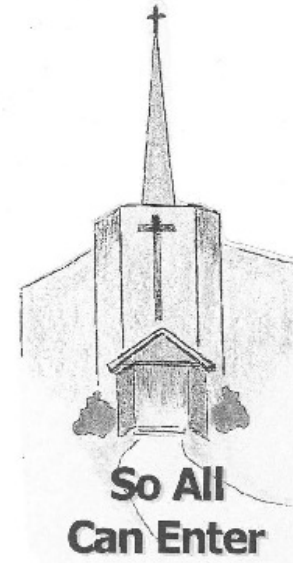
This newsletter is for the family and friends of the IUM Church of Ripon, WI. Everyone is welcome to worship and/or join this church. If this is your first time here, we hope that you enjoyed your time worshipping with us and will come back again soon.



The deadline for the May
newsletter is

****April 20****

Celebrate a Successful Fund Drive



In order to make our elevator and entry happen, it takes prayer, planning, hard decisions and money. Our estimate of cost is \$600,000.

We had over \$200,000 on hand. We knew we needed at least \$200,000 in gifts and 3 year pledges so we would need to borrow no more than \$200,000 long term.

We launched a capital fund drive "So All Can Enter". You read the letters. You attended a Kick-off Worship/Program/Dinner at CJ's on a snowy February Sunday. You prayed for success in a prayer vigil. You prayed about what the Lord would have you pledge and give. You brought or mailed your pledges and gifts on Commitment Sunday. You made a successful drive.

Before Commitment Sunday on March 9, we already had \$173,000 in pledges from some of the church leaders. Our total to March 24 is \$337,157. Money on hand from gifts designated for the elevator over the years and investments that can be used totals about \$218,000. That totals **\$555,000.**

Sunday school classes challenged each other to raise money for the elevator. Winning classes pushed shaving cream pies into the faces of willing teachers. (See bulletin board pictures). Their total during the fund drive was \$463.

If we do construction this summer, it will need to be paid for before all this money comes in over three years. Therefore, we'll still need to borrow much of the money. But the sooner the money is given, the less we'll need to pay in interest.

We thank Lenore Geisthardt of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation for leading our team in organizing this campaign. We thank Jean Nicholas, her Foundation colleague, for challenging us in a sermon March 2. We thank our team for their organization and work to make it happen.

Please don't give to the elevator fund instead of the regular ministry of the church, or we won't be able to do the work that is most important here. Not all will give, nor need to. We are all an important part of the ministry of this church, whether we give or not. But we do thank all who have pledged and given. We especially thank the Immanuel team that made this happen "So All Can Enter".

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE:

Don Jorgensen	General Co-Chair
Connie Kautzer, Barb Steele	Auditors
Russ and Sherry Skurr	Calling
Krista Sperger	Children and Youth
Jeff and Jody Amend	Fellowship
Pat and Nancy Himebaugh	Front Porch Delivery
Louis Bock	Leadership Gifts
Carol Schwark, Connie Kautzer	Production
Jeff and Julie Kahn	Publicity
Tom and Chris Worrall	Spiritual Emphasis
Paul Nulton	Pastor

Building Plans Update

The Building committee and our architect are working on an elevator/entry remodeling project that we are trying to keep to about \$600,000. Contractors have been invited to bid on our design. Bids are due back Monday April 14. The committee will meet Monday evening April 14 to see those bids and hopefully decide who to proceed with. We will then have three weeks to work out problems before the congregation votes on Sunday, May 4.

Vote May 4 at 9:15 am

We will vote on final construction plans and financial plan for the Elevator/Entry project at a Charge Conference, May 4 between services. Just as the procedure for the initial vote last January. The proposal will be made by the building committee. There will be time for discussion, and then a written ballot.

If the proposal passes, we hope our chosen contractor can begin work May 19. Over the summer, many Sundays we will need to enter the building from the North entrance and step around stored equipment in Sunday School rooms and dining hall.

We will need volunteer help. Landscaping bushes must be moved. Dick Stellmacher will organize volunteers to move library and office. Volunteers will be needed to clean up on Saturdays to prepare for Sunday worship during construction. If you can help move, the end of April and beginning of May, see Dick Stellmacher or Rev. Nulton.

Praise 2 Bible Study: 6:30-7:30pm on Wednesday Nights

In January we started the study of the 12 Apostles where we had the opportunity to learn about Peter, Andrew and James. Our study was put on hold due to the Wednesday Lenten worship services, but we resumed this study the Wednesday after Easter, March 26, learning about John.

We would like to invite everyone to join us on this adventure of learning about the lives and ministries of the other Apostles and Paul. The following is our ministry schedule:

- April 2nd – Philip
- April 9th – Nathanael
- April 16th – Matthew
- April 23rd – Thomas
- April 30th – James the Less
- May 7th – Judas
- May 14th – Judas the Traitor
- May 21st – Paul

If you have any questions about our Bible study, please contact the church office or call me at my toll free telephone number: 1-800-725-5276.

Ministering together,

Roger Kindschi

Baptism April 6

Trent Tetting is the son of Susan and Duane Tetting, Jr. and the grandson of Kathy and David Daye. He will be baptized at the 10:30 service on Sunday, April 6.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY APRIL 20

Ninth grade youth will be confirmed in their faith at the 10:30 service April 20. This is the final step of a three year process of 7th grade confirmation education with Jean Woolley and Eric Ratering, 8th grade confirmation class with Russ Skurr and Tom Worrall, and meeting with Rev. Nulton this year.

Confirmation class this year is Coleen Altwies, Amanda Coehoorn, Brendan Conlon, Timothy Hoffman, Marlie Page, Colby Schultz, Kimi Kernen and Jessie White.



After a successful experience with one service last summer, Immanuel Church will again have one service during June, July and August this summer. It will be at 9:00 am.

Renewal Conference

Wisconsin Lay Witness Mission Ministries has organized the Annual Renewal Conference for April 11 and 12 at Reedsburg United Methodist Church. Rev. Tim Vanden Langenberg speaks on "Developing a Christian World View". Brochures are on a table in the lounge.

Relay for Life

This year the **Ripon Relay for Life** for the American Cancer Society will be held at the Ripon High School gym on Friday, April 18 – Saturday morning April, 19. Some of our youth, our youth directors and Rev. Nulton will be participating as a team. Each team participant is asked to raise flat donations (not pledges per lap). If you would like to join our team, please call the church office. Relay for Life is a community event designed by the American Cancer Society to raise money for research and programs, draw awareness to the deadly disease, educate people on how to prevent and detect cancer when possible, and celebrate the lives of those who have won the battle against one of America's top killers. There will be information about the American Cancer Society's educational programs, research, patient services and advocacy efforts at the event. Please consider giving to this worthy cause, as this disease at one time or another has affected everyone's life.

One of the ways we can raise money is through donated items that will be used for the Silent Auction the night of the Relay for Life Event. We would welcome ANY items such as a hand-made quilt, pillows, knitted items, works of art, business gift certificates, themed baskets, etc... Anything that someone might bid on in a Silent Auction. If you have an item that you would like to donate, please contact Shannon Rogers at 745-2924 or Krista Sperger. Thank you in advance for your support for this amazing cause!!!

The April **Sing-alongs** will take place on Tuesday, April 1st at Ripon area care centers. We will sing at:

1:30 pm at Michalene's
2:15 pm at Maplecrest
3:00 pm at Fountainview Care Center
3:45 pm at Sheltered Village

All singers are welcome and folders are furnished.

The **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** will meet weekly at 9:00 am. We will meet in the church lounge. We will continue studying the book "New Testament Stories from the Backside" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Come join us.

Help Needed: Before we begin the construction phase of our elevator and remodeling project, there is much we need to do. Moving the Library, moving tables and chairs from affected classrooms and moving the office are just a few of the tasks. If you can help, contact the church office at 748-6695, Pastor Paul, or Dick Stellmacher at 748-3051.

ELMER HEFT HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Immanuel United Methodist Church is making available a scholarship or scholarships, totaling \$1000, to students that will be attending a college, university or technical college full-time in the fall of 2008. All people that are Immanuel United Methodist Church family members may apply.

Selection of a recipient or recipients will be based upon demonstrated academic potential and financial need.

Application forms are available from the church office. The deadline for application is April 30, 2008. The scholarship or scholarships will be awarded on Sunday, May 18, 2008 at the 10:30 am service.

Sunday School News and Notes

MISSION PROJECTS

Food Pantry

The Sunday School classes will continue to collect non perishable items for the local Food Pantry through April. Please send these items along with your child to Sunday School during these months. We need to remember that food is needed throughout the year.

PART TIME TEACHER NEEDED

A part time/backup teacher is needed for the 3-4 grade class. I have had the opportunity to work this group of kids over the past few weeks and they are great to work with. Please let me know if you are interested in assisting.

VBS

We may be having a joint VBS with other churches this summer in order to join the forces of volunteers as well as students. All the churches involved are looking for 3 volunteers who would organize the joint VBS. This would include selecting a theme, dates and location.

I have 2 individuals who have expressed an interest; however we will need more than just two! Please let me know if you are interested in helping.

IMPORTANT DATE

May 18th Last day of Sunday School
Attendance Award presentations at 10:30 Service
Certificates of completion for 1st & 2nd year of Confirmation
Sunday School Ministry Team Appreciation
Letters will be sent to everyone who will receive an award.

Del Kaiser,

Sunday School Superintendent

Youth News

The middle school girls had a incredible girls night out Friday, February 29th. The girls had a special evening filled with sharing about their lives, painting their nails, making jewelry, watching a movie, etc.

Over 15 children squealed with excitement as they participated in the annual youth sponsored Easter Egg Hunt March 9th. The eggs were filled with candy and prize vouchers to select from the prize table. All of the children left with a bag full of goodies and a big smile on their faces!

Many youth helped to make the Easter Sunrise Service a huge success. They did a skit, a puppet show, and ushered, just to name a few ways they participated. Following the sunrise service was a delicious Easter breakfast. A HUGE thank you to Patti Quinn for all of her work to make the breakfast an amazing event!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the all church bowling event THIS Sunday March 30th at Plaza Bowl here in Ripon. Bowling will begin at 1:30 and end around 3:30 pm. This year there will be some friendly competition between the youth and adults in our church. Cost is \$5 for two games. Hope to see you all there!

Many are excited for Saturday, April 5th, when the youth will be heading to a Mercy Me concert at the PAC in Appleton. It is going to be a blast!

The High School and Middle School Youth will be doing their part for the Ripon Community by, once again, doing a Scavenger Hunt for food Wednesday April 9th. The one they did several months ago, netted an entire car FULL of food to be donated to the Community Food Pantry downtown Ripon. We look forward to collecting even more this time!

The Middle School youth will be heading to the Oshkosh YMCA on a day off from school at the end of the month. For \$5 they can swim, play soccer, basketball, and ice skate for a morning of fun.

The Senior High Mission trip is scheduled for July 13-16th. We are going to Cass Lake Minnesota and spending the week at

Leech Lake Indian Reservation! We even get to participate in a Pow Wow! We reserved 12 spots through YouthWorks and only have ONE spot left to fill! We are so excited about the incredible week we have to look forward to! Jeff Kahn and Shannon Rogers will be the adult leaders joining our Sr. High Youth on this trip!

The Middle School youth continue to meet for "Edge" on Wednesdays at 6:30pm at the church. The Senior High youth meet Sunday mornings for "Breakfast Club" at 9:15 am at the church, and Wednesday's at 6:30 pm for "Supper Club" at Shannon Rogers' home.

Richly blessed with the lives of our youth!

*Krista Sperger and Shannon Rogers
Middle School and Sr. High Youth Coordinators*

1st Quarter Mission Project

The **last day** to give to our **first quarter mission project** (January-March) which is giving to the **Heifer Project International is March 31**. Offerings to this project provide several kinds of farm animals to families, which will in turn provide income and food for these families. You can give to this project by placing your offering in your offering envelope and marking it "1st Quarter Advance" or "Heifer Project". Money given to this project through March 26 is: \$1175.

2nd Quarter Mission Project

Our 2nd quarter (April – June) mission project for 2008 is giving to **UMCOR** (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Because of the need at this time, we will be designating our offerings to go to help people affected by natural disasters that happen at this time of the year, like storms and flooding. Giving to this project makes a world of difference for these people in their time of need.

Women's Circles

The **Koinonia Circle** is meeting on Monday, April 14 at 7:00 pm at Beth Pugh's home. The leader will be Deb Kaiser and the hostess will be Beth Pugh.

The **Merry Friends Circle** will meet on Tuesday, April 8 at 1:30 pm church lounge. Gerry Klingbeil will be the leader and Betty Eichstedt will be the hostess.

The **Priscilla Circle** will meet at 9:00 am on Tuesday, April 8 in the church kitchen to clean. Please bring cleaning supplies. After we finish cleaning we will meet in the church lounge for our business meeting. Carol Schulz will be the leader and Joyce Kahl will be the hostess.

United Methodist Women Nicolet and Winnebago District Spring Retreat, April 25-26, 2008 at Byron Center. Friday night and Saturday (includes double occupancy room and 3 meals) is \$55.00 per person. Saturday only (includes lunch) is \$20.00 per person. Make checks payable to Winnebago District UMW. Reservations due to Alice Uecker by April 6, 2008.
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The **Men's Bible Study** led by Rik Rikkens on Wednesdays, will meet weekly from noon to 1:00 pm. We are currently doing a study on 1 Corinthians. We meet in the Mihaly Room, in the Commons, at Ripon College. For more information on this study, contact Rik at 748-6111(work) or 748-3185 (home).

**All Church Potluck Banquet with guest speaker
Daryl Christensen
on Saturday April 12, 2008 from 5:30 – 7:30pm**

The United Methodist Men would like to invite everyone from our church family to a night of great food, fun, worship and message from Daryl Christensen. We will start out with a pot luck meal in Fellowship Hall and then go upstairs to the Sanctuary for a time of worship (Ashley Himebaugh, piano and Greta Aberg with a hymn sing). After worship, Daryl Christensen will share with us what it is like being a professional fisherman and to then share his Christian testimony.

This will be an opportunity for men, women, adults and students to come together. Please bring your extended family members, neighbors and friends. You may sign up by calling the church office at 748-6695 or on one of the clip boards found in the narthex, to let us know how many people will be attending along with what food you will bring to the potluck meal.

We will be providing the beverages but would ask everyone to bring your own table service and your food item. The **deadline for sign up is April 6**. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Roger Kindschi at eh church office or on my toll free telephone number (1-800-725-5276).

If you are able to help Ann Mijatovich in preparing for and overseeing the pot luck meal, please contact her (920-294-3479) as soon as possible.

Ministering together,
Roger Kindschi

April Sunday Worship Volunteers

USHERS-Coordinator, Mike Wuest

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
April 6	Gary Page, Jay Page Dennis Page, Peter Page	Dennis & Marilyn Keplin Bob & Pat Henning
April 13	Dick & Barb Stellmacher Dave & Kathy Daye	Bob & Kathro Taylor Bob & Cheryl Schrader
April 20	Steve & Kim Michaelson Randy & Gwen Steffen	Phyllis Huggett Stan Brink Joan Volbright Krista Sperger
April 27	Rick & Christina Erdmann Chet & Ardys Fenner	Senior High Youth

COFFEE HOUR-Coordinator, Kathy Hilscher
at 9:00 am Set Up at 8:15 am

April 6	Joe & Deb Gonyo
April 13	Bob & Marge Burling
April 20	OPEN
April 27	Kathy Hilscher

There is a sign up sheet on a table in the lounge, if you are able to be the host/hostess for an OPEN Sunday.

The Worship Committee is grateful for your help.

Attention Parents:

At this time, we do not have nursery service during either service. Please feel free to use one of the quiet bags available in the foyer. **Or** You may also sit in the lounge with your child and listen to the service, as there are toys in the southeast corner of the lounge. ☺

April Sponsors

ALTAR FLOWERS - \$12

April 6 **OPEN**
April 13 Ilah Morgan
April 20 Greg & Barb Tress
April 27 Herbert Buchholz

BULLETINS

April 6 **OPEN**
April 13 Yvonne & Sam Holmes
April 20 Greg & Barb Tress
April 27 Herbert Buchholz

RADIO BROADCASTS - \$50

OPEN
Mark & Sue Thompson
Greg & Barb Tress
Herbert Buchholz

The 2008 sign up sheets to sponsor all items above are posted on the bulletin board between the coatroom and restroom on the main floor. Please sign up soon.

Radio Broadcast

Our Sunday 8:00 am service broadcast is on WRPN Radio, 1600 AM, at 9:30 am every Sunday.

ACOLYTES- *Coordinator, Carol Schwark*

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
April 6	Amanda Page Marlie Page	Tim Hoffman Kimi Kernen
April 13	Alexandra Prellwitz Krystal Tetzlaff	Allie Hughes Brad Arnold
April 20	Alicia Abraham Hunter Gellings	Amy Lauber Megan Sperger
April 27	Tom Amend Kyle Erdmann	Tahlia Callegari Colby Schultz

Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Paul David** who passed away on March 11, 2008. He is the brother of Tom (Chris) Worrall and uncle of Andy Worrall.

Thank You, Church Friends

The Valentine hearts are down from the window but we can still thank people who bless us in their ministries.

We thank those who made Easter a high time of celebration for us:

Spontaneous applause met the choir anthem, Claudia Thom's solo, Gen Stellmacher's organ and piano music.

Confirmation students brought a puppet message to the Sunrise service.

Patti Quinn organized Easter Breakfast with help from Cheryl Schulz, Krista Sperger, and Sr. and Jr. High youth.

Mary Ellen Grahn made Easter bread pudding for our fellowship time.

Ann Mijatovich and Deb Zeratsky decorated the sanctuary.

Andrew Wittchow, Amanda Himebaugh, Jeff Kahn and Alyssa Wittchow gave us a message in a skit.

Susan Wetzel told the resurrection story to children who showed it with puppets.

Thanks to all!

My sincere thanks for all the love that was shown to me through beautiful cards and well wishes, flowers, and most of all your prayers. God is ever faithful, and again thanks to my wonderful church family.

Blessings in his name, *Velma Seidl*

The Tom, Chris and Andy Worrall family expresses their appreciation for your thoughtfulness during the loss of our brother and uncle, Paul A. David of Holcombe, WI.

Thank you to my wonderful church family for the uplifting support you have shown with your prayers, cards, calls and visits since my fall and consequent surgery. Your kindnesses are greatly appreciated.

Carol

Meyer

Food Pantry

As an Outreach Project to our community, we continue to donate items to our local **Food Pantry**. We ask that you bring the following items as these items are in low supply at this time.

In April bring: cereal, Jiffy brand baking mixes, tuna, Spam, baked beans, spaghetti sauce, medium cans of fruit, toilet paper, paper towels. Please place your donations in the shopping cart that is located on the main floor in the west (parking lot entrance) stairwell.

Immanuel UMC staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Paul Nulton
Administrative Assistant	Carol Schwark
Equipping Ministries Director	Roger Kindschi
Senior High Youth Director	Shannon Rogers
Middle School Youth Director	Krista Sperger
College Ministry Coordinator	Ryan Gustafson
Organist	Gen Stellmacher
Choir Director	Shelley Nulton
Custodian	Stan Brink

A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE FOR YOUR CHURCH

Give Willingly. "...all that is mine is yours." Luke 15:31b

We can't wait to file our taxes so that we can get our rebates this year. What will we do with it when we receive it? One blogger on the internet asked others: "If and when tax rebates are sent do you plan to 1) spend it; 2) save it; or 3) pay an existing debt?" The first person to reply said, "*Maybe we'll create a 4th option. Gift it.*"

Will sharing our tax rebates by making a charitable gift stimulate the economy the way the rebates are intended? They could. By providing additional charitable gifts to our churches, our camps, and our United Methodist mission projects throughout the state, you know these dollars will be put to good use. Imagine if the average person in our congregations received a \$600 rebate. If everyone tithed their rebate, we could expect our churches to receive \$60 per member. For every 50 members, we might expect to receive an additional \$3000 this year for mission and ministry.

One church I talked with recently indicated that their snow plowing bills alone were \$1000/month this year. We want and need our church parking lots to be as clear of snow and ice as possible so we can enter safely to worship and grow in our faith. Imagine what an extra \$3,000 would do to help this congregation meet their goals. What ministries could your congregation enhance or begin with an additional \$3,000 or more this year?

For every 50 members who might give 50%, or \$300 of their \$600 rebate to the ministry of Christ and the church, we would anticipate an additional \$15,000 for mission and ministry!

In the parable of the lost son, we have two sons and their father who struggle with a stewardship challenge. The father says to the younger son, "all that is mine is yours." God tells us the same thing. Will we use God's gifts wisely?

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

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