



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

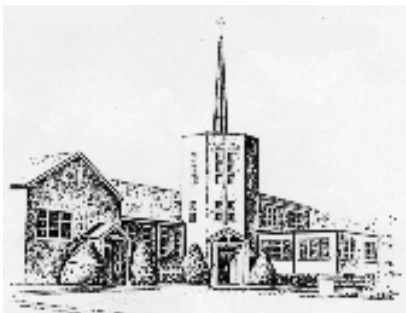
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Soup and Sandwich Supper 5:45 p.m.

Lenten Service 6:30 pm

March 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 April newsletter is
****March 20****

**Easter
March
23**

Up Front

THE HOUR OF DECISION

Immanuel Church needs to decide now how much it will give to build the elevator and entry project.

Our fund drive "So All Can Enter" kicked off with worship, program and meal at CJ's on Sunday, Feb. 17. The snow kept some of us at home, but 110 of us heard the stories of what our church can do to see amazing things happen when we get behind this project. We received information in green bags at CJ's or at home or at church. We received cards in the mail where we can write what we are giving or intend to give over three years. We are asked to pray about what is the Lord leading each of us to give. We are asked to bring the money or the stocks or the pledges to worship on March 9.

There are some who have money in investments or insurance that is no longer needed for other things and will be able to give a lot. There are some without a big nest egg who will be able to give less. There are some who will be able or want to give nothing. The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians "Give in proportion to what you have. Give according to what you have, not what you don't have." (2 Cor. 8:11,12) Whether we give or not, we are all a necessary part of Immanuel Church. Please do not give to the elevator/entry project instead of the ongoing ministry of the church. The regular budget is our first priority.

Now is the time to decide. Our goal is at least \$200,000. If we reach that, we still will need to borrow \$200,000 to be paid in the next 15 or so years. The more that is received in this fund drive, the less we'll need to borrow and the less interest will be added to the budget. If we don't receive at least \$200,000, it will be a sign that this church can't handle this elevator/entry project.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Our Wisconsin United Methodist Bishop Lee has written us a letter encouraging us as we step out in faith. It reminds us of John 10:9 where Jesus says "I am the door. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."

Doors will be open at Immanuel to those who struggle to walk, but who still need to come to Christ, to learn of Christ and to go out to take Christ to others. They will be able because of this elevator.

Our district Superintendent Gordon Lind sent a letter.

“The people I met in the building and funding committees at the church demonstrated a passion to do this work and great care in doing what was right for this congregation of people at this time. The process I have seen these people follow in planning the addition and in securing the fundraiser has been intentional and careful.

The prayer I know that has gone into this period has been remarkable – from Pastor Paul’s prayers to the prayers of the people and planners, to the prayers of others, like me, who watch with hope as you move forward.”

George Groves also sent a letter of encouragement. He reminds us of the people of Israel who stepped out in faith to get away from Egypt and enter their own land and the right worship of God. Out in the desert, where they were tired and hungry, God told Moses to build a Tabernacle, a tent where the people could remember God dwelling with them. Gifts were brought during construction until the craftsmen finally came to Moses and said they had all they needed. So Moses spread the word that the people didn’t need to give any more, they have already given more than enough.

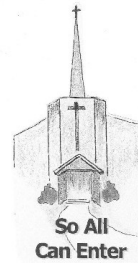
There will be a time when this entry is paid for that we can say, “you have given more than enough.”

Do you remember when people brought a man on a stretcher to Jesus? He healed the man and the onlookers said “We have seen amazing things today.”

Luke 5:26

Rev. Paul Nulton

Building Plans Update



The Building committee has been meeting with our architect, Bill Hoch to finalize details about construction. He is calling contractors to see who wants to bid. Plans should be done about March 25. Then we will invite bids from interested contractors and gets bids back by mid April. We will encourage them to use local subcontractors. We aim for a congregational vote the end of April. We expect construction to begin as soon as weather permits and continue through 5 or 6 months. 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.

Ann Mijatovich, Julie Bock and Kim Michaelson will choose colors for walls, tile, carpet, etc.

We will need to pay the electrical utility to bring 3 phase into the building for the elevator. An abatement report shows that we will need to pay for asbestos removal in ceilings and floors of areas we remodel. We will need volunteers to move landscaping. 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. Rick Erdman will oversee construction progress on behalf of the building committee and report to it.

We are shopping at local banks for a loan that will begin when our money on hand is spent. A bank will use a title company that will pay labor and materials bills from our money, and then the bank loan.

We hope for City of Ripon site plan approval at their meeting the 3rd Wednesday of March.

Final construction plans and financial plan for the Elevator/Entry project will need a congregational vote, hopefully about the end of April.

Prayer Vigil

March 8, 9am – 3pm
in the in sanctuary

Come, Be a Part!

And pray that our commitment to Christ will strengthen as we see the Lord bring us together in a common task- that of opening our doors to ALL people.

Materials will be available to use that will be thought and prayer provoking.

LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 pm
Soup and Sandwich supper at 5:45 pm
No communion; No child care

March 5 Rev. Bob Blackburn (Berlin/Neshkoro):
The Children

March 12 Rev. George Groves (PoySippi/Borth) :
The Woman at the Well

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday, March 20

6:30 p.m. worship with communion and choir
The Service will include the Bible's telling of the events leading to the death of Jesus. Candles will be extinguished as we hear of these events.

Good Friday Worship

Our Savior's United Church of Christ on Scott St.
1 p.m. Friday, March 21
Grace Lutheran, Our Savior's and First Congregational
United Church of Christ, Immanuel United Methodist and
Hillside Assembly of God will participate in this service.

Brief meditations from pastors while we feel symbols of the events of Good Friday. A joint choir anthem, a dramatic reading of James Weldon Johnson's powerful poem, "The Crucifixion". Broadcast live on Ripon Radio AM 1600.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m.
Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
Worship 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

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 will continue this study the Wednesday after Easter, March 26th.

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:

- March 26th – John
- 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

Snowed Under?

Immanuel Church hasn't been canceling events, even when some of us can't get to the church. When people can't get to the building on Sunday morning, it is all the more important for us to have a service for the sake of more who are listening on the radio. If we postpone confirmation or other programs, we compete with school events that were postponed. If we reschedule, we might have the same problem next time because of a storm. So if you missed a good sermon, ask for a copy of the recorded service or check for the sermon at our website, www.riponumc.org.

Thank You Church Friends

125 valentines appeared on the window of the narthex during February. Greta Aberg organized this way of writing "thank you" notes to people in the church for the great things our people do for each other. Greta has put these valentine hearts in a scrapbook for future viewing.

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.

The **March Sing-alongs** will Take place on Tuesday, March 4th 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. On March 5 we will begin studying the book "New Testament Stories from the Backside" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Come join us.

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday night April 8, so you arrive at church at the correct time on Sunday April 9.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

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.

TEACHERS MEETING

Our next teacher's meeting will be held on March 13th at 7:00 pm in the church lounge.

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

Have you always wondered how much fun it would be to coordinate or be a helper at Vacation Bible School? Your opportunity is here! We may be having a joint VBS with other churches this summer in order to join the forces of volunteers as well as students. More information will follow within the next month.

I have 2 individuals who have expressed interest in assisting with VBS this summer. If you are interested in helping in anyway, please let me know.

Deb Kaiser

Sunday School Superintendent

YOUTH NEWS

Six Middle School Youth had an incredible time at the Winter Retreat at Camp Zion in Door County Friday January 18th - Sunday January 20. Many friendships were made and rekindled from around the state. It was an amazing time of fellowship and growing in faith!

On Saturday, January 26th, nine Middle School and High School Youth from our church went on a fun-filled trip to SunBurst for Snow Tubing! All had a blast!

The High School Youth met at Shannon Rogers' house (645 Emerson Ave) Sunday February 3rd at 6:30 pm for Super Bowl Sundaes! They were treated to ice cream and every topping you can imagine! Yum!

Saturday, February 16th, the middle and high school youth babysat four younger members of the church so their parents could celebrate Valentine's Day.

On Friday, February 29th, the middle school girls had a fun Girl's Night Out from 5:00 -10:00 pm in the youth room. Many activities were enjoyed.

With the Lenten season in full gear we are reminded that Easter is almost here. The annual Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, March 9th, at 11:30 am in the fellowship hall. All children from Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to join in the hunt. Then, please join the youth on Easter Sunrise for a short service at 6:30 am, followed by breakfast at 7:00 am in the fellowship hall.

To finish off the month of March there will be an All Church Bowling event on the 30th at Plaza Bowl here in Ripon. Bowling will begin at 1:30 pm 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!

The Senior High Mission trip is scheduled for July 13th -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 Continue to meet for "Edge" on Wednesdays at 6:30pm at the Church. The Senior High meet Sunday mornings for "Breakfast Club" at 9:15am at the church and Wednesday's at 6:30pm 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

Immanuel UMC staff

Senior Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Equipping Ministries Director
Senior High Youth Director
Middle School Youth Director
College Ministry Coordinator
Organist
Choir Director
Custodian

Rev. Paul Nulton
Carol Schwark
Roger Kindschi
Shannon Rogers
Krista Sperger
Ryan Gustafson
Gen Stellmacher
Shelley Nulton
Stan Brink

CAMPING IS FOR EVERYONE!

Even though it's still winter, now is the time to be registering to go to a summer camp that is offered by the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. Register soon, as the most popular camps fill up quickly.

This summer families, children, youth, and adults can choose from over 80 camps that are offered. There are family camps for parents and children to attend together. There are mother/daughter, father/son, and grandparent/grandchild camps!

Individual camps begin with camps for children entering grade 2 next Fall. There is a wide variety of younger elementary, older elementary, younger teen, and older teen camps available. Also offered are several camps for adults, including the Prime Timer's Retreat Camp that is for people 50 or over, that are married or single. As you can see, there are camps available for everyone!

Camp scholarships are available to Immanuel UMC children, youth and adults. These scholarships will finance 50% of the cost of the camp they attend. We are very fortunate to have scholarship money available that is made possible through a memorial that was left for this purpose.

Camp catalogs have been distributed in Sunday School classes. Additional catalogs are located in the narthex as part of the Camping display. See the note that is attached to the inside of the front cover of the camp catalog for registration and scholarship details. For questions about camps, for assistance in registering for camps, or in obtaining camp scholarships, contact Carol Schwark at the church office at 748-6695.

Our annual Camp Promotion Sunday is scheduled for March 30. Roger Kindschi will be available that day to answer questions you may have about camps.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

On **Saturday, March 29**, Immanuel United Methodist Men will recognize the Ripon High School Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Teams, their parents and their coaches. All men are encouraged to attend. This event will be held at CJ's at the Wayside at 8:00 am, and will include breakfast and a program.

Tom Worrall, U.M.M. chairman

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study led by Rik Ridders 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).

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The **Koinonia Circle** is meeting on Monday, March 10 at 7:00 pm at Sue Thompson's home. The leader will be Chris Worrall and the hostess will be Sue Thompson.

The **Merry Friends Circle** will meet at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, March 11 in the church lounge. Lois Marquart will be the leader and Marge Burling will be the hostess.

The **Priscilla Circle** will meet at 9:00 am on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 in the church lounge for their business meeting. At 10:00 am they will go visit some of our members at area care centers. Joyce Kahl will be the leader and Barb Meyer will be the hostess.

A **UMW Mission Team Meeting** will be held in the church lounge on Monday, March 3 at 7:00 pm. All Unit Officers, Mission Coordinators and Circle Leaders should attend. The **UMW Unit Meeting** will be held on Saturday, March 15 at 9:30 am in the church lounge. The leaders will be the Spiritual Growth Coordinators and the hostesses will be the Merry Friends Circle.

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

Check out his website at
<http://darylchristensen.net/fish/>

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 led by people, from our church, of all ages (names will be released by mid March). 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.

We will have a sign up sheet in the Narthex to let us know how many people will be attending and what great food items you will be able to bring. Then on March 30th, Camp Sunday, we will send the sign up sheets around during the first part of the worship service.

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

March Sunday Worship Volunteers

USHERS-Coordinator, Mike Wuest

8:00 am

Mar. 2 Dennis Valstad
Don Kwiatkowski
Jerry Stellmacher
Dick Stellmacher

10:30 am

Dennis & Marilyn Keplin

Mar 9 Dennis Valstad
Don Kwiatkowski
Jerry Stellmacher
Gerald Schulz

Rosemary Zimdars & Michelle
Rich & Sandy Scamehorn

Mar. 16 Dennis Valstad
Don Kwiatkowski
Jerry Stellmacher
Dave Long

Tom & Shannon Rogers
Tom & Deb Konecny

Mar. 23 Dennis Valstad
Don Kwiatkowski
Jerry Stellmacher
Dick Stellmacher

Tom & Wendy Schulz
Bob Thom
Rik Ridders

Mar. 30 Dennis Valstad
Don Kwiatkowski
Jerry Stellmacher
Mike Dickerson

Senior High Youth

COFFEE HOUR-Coordinator, Kathy Hilscher

at 9:00 am Set Up at 8:15 am

March 2 Keith & Julie Bock
March 9 Ann Mijatovich
March 16 OPEN
March 23 Mary Ellen Grahn
March 30 Mike & n Janice Dickerson

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. ☺

March Sponsors

ALTAR FLOWERS - \$12

Mar. 2 OPEN
Mar. 9 Betty Eichstedt
Mar. 16 OPEN
Mar. 23 Joe & Judy Barnett
Mar. 30 June Kehl

BULLETINS - \$10

Ilah Morgan
Betty Eichstedt
OPEN
Claudia Thom
OPEN

RADIO BROADCASTS - \$50

Mar. 2 IUMC Foundation
Mar. 9 Don & Joyce Jorgensen
Mar. 16 Glenn & Lois Page
Mar. 23 OPEN
Mar.30 OPEN

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>
March 2	Melissa Smit Hunter Gellings	Megan Sperger Emily Grahn
March 9	Kyle Erdmann Tom Amend	Brad Arnold Allie Hughes
March 16	Kimi Kernen Trevor Bender	Colby Schultz Michelle Zimdars
March 23	Ashley Zahnow Amanda Coehoorn	Amy Lauber Michael Lauber
March 30	Alicia Abraham Brendan Conlon	Tahlia Callegari Krystal Tetzlaff

THANK YOU'S

Words can not express how wonderful our church family has been not only after mom's death, but while she was living at Maplecrest Manor, FountainView and Markesan Residential Home. She loved all the cards, flowers, gifts and mostly visits.

We wish to thank everyone for your thoughts, prayers and words of encouragement. Thank you to Gen and Pastor Neil for the music, Pastor Paul for the inspiring message, to those who donated food and the ladies for serving the lunch.

The service had such great meaning because mom had picked out all the songs and those she wanted to participate. Mom was so excited when she learned that the elevator was no longer a dream and would be built. Her memorial funds will be put towards this fund.

Thank you everyone, the Immanuel United Methodist Church Family is so caring and loving.

The family of Florence Bly

Thank you for your prayers for my brother Raymond Schultz. He wasn't able to swallow before and now he can swallow.

Continued prayers are appreciated.

Fern Zamzow

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Florence Bly** who passed away on February 3, 2008. She is the mother of Debra (Kevin) Kaiser, Daryl Bly and Roger Bly, and the grandmother of Tiffani (Kent) Floros, Bailey Kaiser and Stacie and Stephanie Bly.

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 March bring: fruit juice, canned fruit, powdered milk, evaporated milk, canned soup, soup mixes, small packages of cookies, laundry and cleaning supplies. Please place your donations in the shopping cart that is located on the main floor in the west (parking lot entrance) stairwell.

Our **first quarter mission project** (January-March) is giving to the **Heifer Project International**. 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 so far is: \$465.

Friday, March 7, is **World Day of Prayer**, an ecumenical celebration of informed prayer. Join in the prayers written by women of Guyana for families in need world wide. Their theme is *God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding*. This prayer service is sponsored by Church Women United in the Ripon Area Street, Ripon. Coffee and Dessert are at 1:15 pm, and the Prayer Service is at 1:45 pm. Contact Liz Ringstad, Celebrations Coordinator, 748-6666 for more information.

The public is invited to the **2008 Choir Festival**, March 2 at 3:00 pm at the United Methodist Church, 74 Catherine Street, in Markesan, WI. Our Immanuel UMC Chancel Choir, along with area choirs from other denominations, will present favorite music, join in a mass choir, and join with you in a final hymn. Come join us! Choir members are asked to be ready for rehearsal at 2:15 pm.

A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE FOR YOUR CHURCH

To give is to Respond Gratefully.
“...they gave themselves first to the Lord.” 2 Cor 8:5b (NRSV)

“Imagine yourself giving to others everything you own, picking and choosing just what to give each individual or group you want to include. Enjoy the philanthropic feeling of such generosity - how good it feels to give with abandon. Writing a Will allows you to try on that kind of giving, but without having to let go of anything you have. The feelings of compassion, creative giving, innovative selection, even reconciliation are possible in writing a Will that witnesses to your Christian lifestyle.

If you do not have a Will at the time of your death, the laws of your state of residence will govern the distribution of all you own. No provisions for charity will be included. Only through a Will, can you intentionally practice stewardship.”

A Will is our ultimate faith statement. Seventy percent of competent adults do NOT have a current, valid will in place at the time of their death. Do you want the state to determine your legacy? If not, take these simple steps to prepare a Will:

- Collection - make a list of your assets and special items of sentimental value. Consider this step as a treasure hunt.
- Imagination - imagine what your assets might become and who you can help experience the love of Christ - in your family, your church, the world.
- Distribution - This is a step of decision-making. Arriving at “what is given where and when” requires some careful time of discernment.
- Liberation - the final step. Are there assets you no longer need to hold? Are there any specific cases where doing the giving now rather than after death would be more joyful?

Once you have completed your Will, please review it and update it every 3-5 years. For more information on how to include the church or other ministries in your Will, contact the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation at 1-888-903-9863 or wumf@wumf.org.

Hop on over to an

Easter Egg Hunt

For children

pre-k through grade 5

Sunday, March 9, 2008

11:30 am in the

Immanuel UMC

fellowship hall

Sponsored by the sr. high and middle school
youth groups

All Church

Bowling

Sunday, March 30

1:30 – 3:30 pm

at Plaza Bowl

Cost: \$5.00

includes 2 games of bowling and shoes

**Everyone is invited to this family event
co-sponsored by our Sr. High and
Middle School Youth groups
and United Methodist Men.
Meet at Plaza Bowl.**

Come to bowl or come to watch.

Last year we had 34 attend. This year let's make it 50. If you plan on bowling, please sign up in the narthex by March 23 so we have an approximate count to give the bowling alley.

It's time to...

Help beautify our

sanctuary with

Easter Lilies

this holiday season!

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for the sanctuary, please fill out the section below and put it in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Please write your name and indicate if you want your plant to be in memory or in honor of someone. Order deadline is March 16th. Easter Lilies may be picked up following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service on Easter Sunday, March 23rd. The cost is \$8.50 per plant.

Name _____

In Honor/ in memory of (circle one)

The Called to Care Ministry of Our Saviour's United Church of Christ is sponsoring and invites you to attend our 3 sessions in the 2008 program of, "**Health and Healing of Mind, Body and Spirit**". Sessions will be held at Our Saviour's UCC, 343 Scott Street, Ripon, on Sundays, March 30, April 6 and April 13, 2008 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

March 30

"The Ministry of Parenting"

Parenting is one of the toughest jobs you will ever have! It is a vocation a call to ministry. Ministry is service to others. As parents we are asked to serve as intentional guides and guardians of the children entrusted to us. What does this mean on a daily basis? What is involved in this ministry of a lifetime? How do we "Minister" to our children? Does our parenting extend to other family members in addition to our children? Join us and our guest speaker, UCC minister and author, Rev. Deborah Payden, as we explore these and other questions about what parenting ministry means to us, our children and the larger community!

April 6

"Spirituality, Story and Holy Memory"

Midge Miles, Storyteller, will bring you a lighthearted look at the power of memory and the ways it nourishes the health of adults in body, mind and spirit. We will explore the themes of memory in Judeo-Christian tradition, memory and the importance of living in the present, and memory loss. Through a unique combination of storytelling, stand-up comedy, and spiritual reflection, Midge promises a prayerful and playful evening that you won't want to miss!

April 13

"Domestic Violence"

Jennifer Dille, Program Director for Solutions Center Shelter and Support Services, Fond du Lac, will present our program on this very important topic. Her presentation will include interactive activities that help us understand the impact domestic violence has on individuals and the community. She will discuss the cycle of violence and how it affects the family. She will also talk about what to do if you have a friend or family member who is a victim of domestic violence, and ways to help them.

Join us for one, two or all three of our programs free of charge. Refreshments will be served and a time for sharing will follow each presentation. Our attendance has been increasing each year, so please let us know you are coming by calling our church office at 748-2544 to RSVP.

Walk to Emmaus

What is it all about?

<http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus/whatis/>

Where? Imago Dei Village, Clintonville, Wisconsin

When? Men's Walk, April 10 – 13, 2008

Women's Walk, April 17 – 20, 2008

The *Walk to Emmaus* is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. It begins with a short course in Christianity comprised of 15 talks (5 by clergy and 10 by laity) on God's grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church.

Prayer, daily communion, meditation and special times of worship comprise it. Sponsors support the Walk by prayer, preparing and serving meals, and other self giving acts.

Regular small group gatherings are encouraged after the event. The Upper Room of the United Methodist Church sponsors the *Walk to Emmaus*. Between 1978 and 1995 nearly 500,000 people in 300 sites around the world, have participated in the *Walk to Emmaus*.

Cost: \$135 per person (6:00 pm Thursday – 6:00 pm Sunday)

Contact Rev. Paul Nulton at Immanuel UMC, or Rev. Mark West at Our Saviour's UCC in Ripon for more information. A sponsor is needed to get started. Scholarships are available.

Immanuel's Stewardship Update

Paying for the Lord's Work...

Income to date is about the same as last year, \$34,000. As of the end of February we have received about \$7400 less than needed for all our ministries. In 2007 we had more money left from the

year before which we did not have this year, so some of our bills have not been paid. Gifts for special causes have been given to those causes, but some of the payroll has not been paid. We have not sent any of our share of the conference budget yet. Thanks for your support.

2008 Church Family Directory

The 2008 Church Family Directory is now available and can be picked up on a table in the narthex.

Please note the corrections that we have to date:

- On the front cover, our church email address should be riponumc@centurytel.net
- Virgil Nulton's phone number is (920) 809-1992.
- Al & Barb Hermes' phone number is 920-807-0099.
- Rick Marquardt does not have a phone number at this time.
- Jack Teela's new address is 207 Watson St, Ripon.
- Todd & Kara Weir's new address is N6050 St. Marie Road, Green Lake, WI 54941.
- We apologize for omitting Martha Wilson. Her address is N1465 27th Lane, Redgranite, WI 54970. Her phone number is 920-566-4386.