



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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riponumc@centurytel.net

Website address: www.riponumc.org

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

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 SCHEDULE

Soup and Sandwich Supper 5:00 pm January 7

Praise 1 Service 5:30 pm January 7

Praise 2 Bible Study 6:30 pm Every Wednesday

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

January 2009 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 February newsletter is

****January 18****

UP FRONT CELEBRATE January 18

It was exciting to see the six people with wheel chairs and walkers and their families use the elevator to see grandchildren in the Sunday School Christmas program. At every church event, there are people who had struggled with stairs, now using the elevator.

We will celebrate our elevator/entry project on **Sunday, January 18**

Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 am will include praise to God for seeing us through this project. Rev. David Busker and our District Superintendent Rev. Gordon Lind will speak.

Elevator music will lift our spirits. Sunday School at 9:15 am will include a celebration by the students.

Then at 11:30 am, we are all invited to a church dinner in the dining hall. Bring a main dish or salad for the meal. CJs Catering is donating some of Cheryl Coburn's great desserts.

The program will recognize the many people who made this project succeed: Trustees, Building, Space Needs and Capital Funds Committees. Dick Stellmacher and Rick Erdmann who are doing extra work. Architect, General Contractor and Sub Contractors.

We'll thank all who donated money. Nearly \$200,000 has been contributed toward the project so far. As final bills come in, we will soon know how much we still need to borrow.

We'll advertise to the community to come and see our new entry and rooms in an open house from 1:30 to 3:00 that afternoon.

It is finished. Now we move on to the increased ministry we can do with open hearts, open minds and open doors.

God is Good. Celebrate with us January 18.
Rev. Nulton



schedule highlights

Thursday, January 1

- New Year's Day ~ Office Closed

Saturday, January 3

- Pizza Making Day for the Youth Pizza Sale Fund Raiser, 7:00 am until ? fellowship hall

Tuesday, January 6

- Evangelism Committee 6:00 pm in Christian Service room
- Board of Trustees 7:00 pm in Disciple room
- Staff parish Relations Committee in Christian Service room

Wednesday, January 7

- Monthly Soup and Sandwich Supper 5:00 pm in fellowship hall
- Monthly Praise 1 Service 5:30 pm in lounge
- Weekly Praise 2 Bible Study resumes 6:30 pm in lounge

Saturday, January 10

- United Methodist Men's Breakfast 8:00 am downstairs lounge

Monday, January 12

- Koinoia Circle 7:00 pm at Terri Arnold's home

Tuesday, January 13

- Priscilla Circle 9:30 am meet at church for visitation
- Merry Friends Circle 1:30 pm in lounge
- Nurture Committee 6:00 pm in Christian Service room
- Ad Council 7:00 pm in Christian Service room

Sunday, January 18

- Elevator/Entry Project Celebration at 8:00 & 10:30 am
- Celebration Dinner and Program 11:30 am fellowship hall
- Elevator/Entry Project Open House 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Sunday, January 25

- Circuit SWAP meet 4:00 pm in fellowship hall

Sunday School Coordinators

Mitten Tree Project Update

December 14th was the last day to donate mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and socks for Northcott Neighborhood House. Two large boxes full of these items were collected and sent ~ what a generous amount of items were donated. Thank you everyone!

Come Celebrate on January 18 ~ Sunday School Open House

Children, this is the day to invite your parents, grandparents and friends to come see our new elevator and entry, and to show them your Sunday School classroom and have them meet your teachers. Come for the worship service, potluck dinner and Open House.

Mission Project for the First Quarter of 2009 ~ Heifer Project

The Heifer Project International mission project has been a popular one, not only for the Sunday School children, but will again be one the whole congregation will participate in during January through March. Money collected is used to buy animals for deserving families all over the world that are living in poverty. Information about this project will be available early in January.

Sunday School Ministry Team Meeting

All teachers, helpers and substitute teachers, please mark your calendars now for the next Sunday School Ministry Team meeting that will be held on Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in the new lower level lounge.

Greta Aberg 748-8909

Ann Mijatovich 294-3479

Sunday School Coordinators



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO CHRIS WORALL AND THE 3 UMW CIRCLES for all of their hard work baking and preparing for the annual Cookie Fundraiser! We were able to raise over \$500 towards our winter retreat and summer youth mission trips, because of their love, support and hard work!

Our youth were so excited for the opportunity to serve, once again, Wednesday, December 10th. They braved the cold and went door to door asking for donations for the Ripon Food Pantry. They were able to gather an entire trunk, back seat, and half a van full of food donations that we quickly delivered to the Ripon Community Thrift Store and Food Pantry. What an incredible way to give back to our community!

On December 14th, both our Middle School and Senior High youth participated in the Christmas Program at church. The Middle School youth did a sign language presentation of the song, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing". The Senior High participated through the reading of Scripture and prayers. What a fun way to be role models to the younger children in our church!

The Middle School youth celebrated Christmas during their CHRISTmas Party at church on December 17th. The Senior High youth gathered at the Red Apple Restaurant on Sunday, December 21st for their annual CHRISTmas gathering feast!

We are thrilled to invite each and every church member to help make pizzas Saturday, January 3rd starting at 7:00 am. We can always use as much help as we can get...so don't be shy! We will make you a pizza expert if you aren't already!! Also, thank you to all of you that ordered pizzas to support this incredible annual fundraiser. Money raised helps support our youth budget and helps to pay for the summer mission trips.

Middle School youth will be at Camp Zion in Door County for a winter retreat. Two days of incredible worship, food, games and outdoor activities with other churches from around Wisconsin!

On the last day of January, the youth will be heading to Sunburst Ski Hill in Kewaskum for a fun afternoon of snow tubing. A great way to enjoy winter in Wisconsin.

The Senior High youth continue to have Wednesday Night Supper Club at 6:30 pm at Shannon Rogers' house. Supper Club is a time of sharing pizza, faith and fun together. The Middle School youth continue to have EDGE Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Middle School Youth room.

Richly blessed with the lives of our youth!
Krista Sperger and Shannon Rogers
Middle school and Sr. High Youth Coordinators



The **Koinonia Circle** will meet on Monday, January 12 at 7:00 pm at Terri Arnold's home. The leader is Chris Worrall and the hostess is Terri Arnold.

The **Merry Friends Circle** will meet at church on Tuesday, January 13 at 1:30 pm in the church lounge. The leader is Joan Volbright and the hostess is Alice Prellwitz.

The **Priscilla Circle** will meet on Tuesday, January 13 in the church lounge at 9:00 am. Please note the earlier meeting time. The business meeting and fellowship will precede visitation sing-alongs at Willowbrook and American House. Carol Meyer is the leader and Barb Meyer is the hostess.

The **January Sing-alongs** will be held on Tuesday, January 6th at:
1:30 pm at Sheltered Village
2:15 pm at Fountainview Care Center
3:00 pm at Maplecrest Manor

Song folders are furnished. Enthusiastic singers needed!



On Saturday, January 10th Immanuel United Methodist Men will have their monthly breakfast at 8:00 am in the new lower level lounge at church. (Remember, the elevator goes there.) Don Jorgensen will share his and Joyce's pilgrimage to Egypt and Germany. There will be a Bible Study led by Rik Rikers, music, and as always, good fellowship. Come and be a part of this growing group.

Tom Worrall
Chairman, United Methodist Men



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The **Men's Bible Study** led by Rik Rikers on Wednesdays, will meet weekly from noon to 1:00 pm. We are currently doing a study on the New Testament. For more information on this study, and for our January meeting locations, contact Rik at 748-6111 or 748-3185.

More of Louie Bock

Changes have been made in leadership in 2009. Roger Kindschi will no longer be leading occasional worship services. Louie Bock will be doing it instead. He will organize worship and preach about every six weeks, beginning Sunday, January 25. Staff Parish Relations Committee set this schedule in order for variety in sermon style and for Rev. Nulton to have time every six weeks, rather than worship preparation, for other pastoral duties.

Mr. Bock is a Certified lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church. He leads worship at the Pine River Congregational Church on other Sundays.

Immanuel's Helping Hands



Our Men's Club program in December heard of Father Wally Kasuboski's dam building project in Panama. Our devotional time was about ways Christ uses us to minister to those with emergency special needs. How did we do this year?

In 2008, our Helping Hands fund gave \$1,611 to special needs of individuals in Immanuel Church and \$817 to people outside the church. Income to that fund comes from offerings, and money given to Rev. Nulton for weddings and funerals.

Many of you regularly bring food to the shopping cart in the north entry area. Betty Eichstedt takes it to the Food Pantry at the Ripon Senior Center.

Our youth gathered food for the Food Pantry in the Thrift Store on Watson Street. An offering of food and money at the Union Thanksgiving Service also went to that Food Pantry.

We ring bells at the Salvation Army Red Kettles in December which raise about \$15,000 for emergency needs of people in the Ripon area.

People gave special offerings for individuals in need, for food pantry, flood relief, backpacks for school kids, hurricane relief, camp scholarships, Northcott Neighborhood House and advance special projects.

It's what Christians do. We reach out with a helping hand.

IUMC Staff

Pastor	Rev. Paul Nulton
Administrative Assistant	Carol Schwark
Sr. High Youth Director	Shannon Rogers
Middle School Youth Director	Krista Sperger
College Ministry Coordinator	Jeremy Custer
Organist	Gen Stellmacher
Choir Director	Shelley Nulton
Custodian	Stan Brink

January Sunday Worship Volunteers

USHERS-Coordinator, Mike Wuest

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Jan. 4	Howie & Jackie Goeden Joe & Janet Vande Brink	Kyle and Mindy Gellings Hunter and Mason Gellings
Jan. 11	Howie & Jackie Goeden Joe & Janet Vande Brink	Cheryl Schrader Stan Brink Joan Volbright Barb Steele
Jan. 18	Howie & Jackie Goeden Joe & Janet Vande Brink	Jason & Beth Pugh Bob & Kathro Taylor
Jan. 25	Howie & Jackie Goeden Joe & Janet Vande Brink	Sr. High Youth

COFFEE HOUR-Coordinator, Kathy Hilscher

At 9:00 am Set Up at 8:30 am

January 4	Kathy Hilscher
January 11	OPEN
January 18	Kathy Hilscher
January 25	OPEN

Please note: If you enjoy the Coffee Fellowship Time and would like it to continue, please sign up to serve as the host/hostess. There is a sign up sheet on the refrigerator in the Lounge or you may call the church office at 748-6695 to sign up. We will not have a Coffee Fellowship Time on Sundays when nobody is signed up to host it.

The Worship Committee is grateful for your help.

Attention Parents:

At this time, we do not have nursery service available. 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.

January Sponsors

ALTAR FLOWERS - \$12

Jan. 4 OPEN
Jan. 11 OPEN
Jan. 18 OPEN
Jan. 25 OPEN

BULLETINS - \$10

OPEN
OPEN
OPEN
OPEN

RADIO BROADCAST - \$50

Jan. 4 OPEN
Jan. 11 OPEN
Jan. 18 OPEN
Jan. 25 OPEN

2008 sign up sheets to sponsor all items above have been posted on the bulletin board that is located in the hall just outside the church office. Please sign up today for OPEN dates! The 2009 sponsor sheets will be posted by mid-December.

Radio Broadcast

Our 8:00 am service is broadcast 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>
Jan. 4	Trevor Bender Brandon Albright	Allie Hughes Kaila Keplin
Jan. 11	Alexandra Prellwitz Krystal Tetzlaff	Brad Arnold Shawn Timm Jr.
Jan. 18	Alicia Abraham Megan Sperger	Amy Lauber Michael Lauber
Jan. 25	Tom Amend Kyle Erdmann	Michelle Zimdars Amanda Page

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 January bring: evaporated milk, pudding mix, Jell-O, canned fruit, gravy packets, Hamburger Helper, rice, small size ketchup and mustard. The items listed above are the items that are needed most at this time. Please place your donations in the shopping cart that is located in the north foyer by the coat rack.

SWAP

What are we doing to help each other in a downsized economy? We trade. If we don't have the money to get what we need, what do we do? We trade.

Let's try it

Sunday afternoon, January 25, 4:00 pm

Bring something of value you don't need anymore. We'll put everything people bring out on dinning hall tables or floor. Then we'll invite each one to take something they need. We'll see how it works. We will also investigate ways to find out what each needs. Then we see if we have it, don't need it and can give it.

In economic downtimes when we have less money, this is one way we can get what we need.

Exchanging our stuff is one example of God's economics. Rev. Nulton will speak about other examples. God carries us through tough economic times by using things of value other than money.

We're inviting people from the Circuit United Methodist Churches. Let's have some fun with this. It's a swap meet without money. Bring something, take something. We exchange our stuff.

How Much is Enough?

"Philip answered, "Two hundred silver pieces wouldn't be enough to buy bread for each person to get a piece." (John 6:7 [The Message](#))

When I was a child, it was a big treat to go to McDonald's. Our family rule was that everyone paired up to share a shake and a small order of fries to go along with their hamburger or fish sandwich. The one who divided the shake allowed their partner to choose first and my brother (now a math teacher) would often count out the fries! Almost every time we went I remember thinking, "This isn't enough. I'm really hungry." The reality was that my perceived scarcity often turned to abundance as I forced myself to eat those last few fries that were mine!

As we begin a new year, we're facing new challenges of perception in the church. Do people really have enough money to go around? It's already been a cold winter and some find themselves choosing between heat and food or medicine. The snow plowing bills are already high and we're only one month into the season. The stock market is still bouncing all over the place and investment income is way down.

Many have lost their jobs and others live in fear of the same. Yet, God is good – all the time. And, all the time – God is good. We say this. We encourage our children and youth to repeat it with great enthusiasm. Yet, do we believe it? How does it become real in our lives? God is calling us to rework our priorities and, perhaps, re-imagine our ministry.

When times get tough – financially or emotionally – it's very tempting to withhold our money from God because we're convinced we don't have enough. When we remember that everything we have is a gift from God, it's easier to give the first check or the first payment of every week or month to the ministry of Christ through the church. And whether our gift is enough to buy a half-order of fries or feed the multitudes, we know it will be used to proclaim the Good News. Praise God! Happy New Year!

-Rev. Jean Ehnert Nicholas

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation
P.O. Box 620, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-0620
1-888-903-9863 or wumf@wumf.org



Wednesday Evening Schedule

Praise 1 is Monthly

Soup and sandwich supper and prayer and praise in songs have been regular Wednesday night events at Immanuel for several years. All contribute and learn and encourage each other in faith. Led by Rev. Nulton and the guitar, joyful songs and prayers are faith builders for all. 10 group home residents and 3 others from the church are faithful participants in this small group. CJ's supplies the food and volunteers serve the group.

Soup and Sandwich and Praise 1 will meet monthly, rather than weekly in 2009. It convenes at 5:00 pm and finishes at 6:15 pm on the first Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome to join the action.

Praise 2 Bible Study

Our Praise 2 Bible Study will resume meeting weekly on Wednesday evenings, beginning on January 7. We will meet at 6:30 pm in the Disciple room.

We will do a study on "Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs. We'll view a short video, then discuss a female Bible character and how God worked His good in her life.

This study will be led by Nancy Himebaugh. Everybody is invited to join us.



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of

- Adeline "Toots" Burdick, age 88, who passed away on December 10, 2008. She is the sister of Elaine Moderow, and sister-in-law of Gen Stellmacher.
- Jill Chatterson, age 50, who passed away on December 16, 2008. She is the daughter of Ken and Barbara Cartier.



The Children's Christmas program "Tell Me Again about Bethlehem" was a JOY to be part of! Thank you to all the students who participated; those who shared their abilities playing instruments; Pastor Paul and teachers who spent time rehearsing songs and parts. Thank you to the parents who took the time getting the children to the practice sessions. We couldn't have done it without You!

Greta Aberg and Ann Mijatovich



Stock the Pantries

STOCK THE PANTRIES! How better to start the New Year than by helping feed those in our communities who are less fortunate.

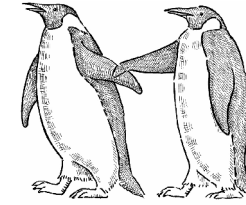
The Stock the Pantries Program is quite simple. Here's how it works:

1. The customer buys any canned or non-perishable food item at Ripon's Pick n Save between December 30th and January 4th. Ripon Pick n Save and the Ripon Commonwealth Press/Express will match your gift, giving both food items to the pantry of your choice. The Food Pantries included are: Ripon, Green Lake, Berlin, Princeton, Markesan and Brandon. Please pick up two (or four or six) of anything you want to donate. Tell our cashier at the time you check-out which items are to be donated. We will charge you for one (or two or three) of the item(s), but both will be placed in the Food Pantry box of your choice. Some of the higher demand items include: cereal, Hamburger Helper, mac & cheese, peanut butter, jelly, soup, tuna, canned vegetables, cooking oil, sugar and flour.

Or...

2. We are also going to have bags already made up and we will be selling them for a set dollar amount, \$10.00 or \$20.00. Each bag will have 2 of each item already in it. All the customer will have to do is pick up a bag and the cashier will know what to charge them. Decide which way works best for you.

On behalf of Ripon's Pick n Save and the Ripon Commonwealth Press/Express, we would like to thank you in advance for your help making this program a HUGE success. If you have any question concerning this program, please feel free to contact DuWayne Wichman at Ripon's Pick n Save, 748-5498.



Brrr...It's Cold

Cold is a Relative Thing:

60 degrees above zero: Floridians turn on the heat; people in Wisconsin plant gardens.

50 degrees above zero: Californians shiver uncontrollably; people in Madison sunbathe.

40 degrees above zero: Italian and English cars won't start; people in Wisconsin drive with the windows down.

32 degrees above zero: Distilled water freezes: the water in Lake Superior gets thicker.

20 degrees above zero: Floridians don coats, thermal underwear, gloves, wool hats; people in Wisconsin have the last cookout before it gets cold.

Zero degrees: People in Miami all die; Wisconsinites close the windows.

10 degrees below zero: Californians fly away to Mexico: people in Wisconsin get out their winter coats.

25 degrees below zero: Hollywood disintegrates; the Girl Scouts in Wisconsin are selling cookies door to door.

40 degrees below zero: Washington D.C. runs out of hot air; people in Wisconsin let the dogs sleep indoors.

100 degrees below zero: Santa Claus abandons the North Pole; Wisconsinites get upset because they can't start their minivans.

460 degrees (-459.67 degrees F) below zero: ALL atomic motion stops (absolute zero, zero on the Kelvin Scale); people in Wisconsin start saying "Cold 'nuff fer ya?"

500 degrees below zero: Hell freezes over; Wisconsin Public Schools will open 2 hours late.