
Expressions of Immanuel Church

December 2023

Worship Service 10:15 am

Immanuel Church 8888 St Rt 274

PO Box 127,

Kettlersville, Ohio 45336



**Immanuel
Church**

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8888 St Rt. 274
Po Box 127
Kettlersville, Ohio 45336

Dear Church Family,

Nine years ago, you welcomed the Rinehart Family into your congregation. And as I write this letter to you, I realize that we are starting year number ten. Hard to believe the many things that have happened in your Church. We have added many new faces to our congregation and the church family. Some are now the children of those juniors and seniors of high school just a few short years ago. Some of those three and four-year-old girls are now growing into spiritual young ladies of our church. Family members have joined us, other family members have returned for various reasons and new faces have become family in our midst.



Yet, as I think of all of the new faces and the families that have gained children and grandchildren, I also think of the many faces that are no longer with us physically. We have witnessed the passing of great people in our congregation over these same nine years. I refrain from listing names as I may miss one and inadvertently cause undue pain. I pause even as I write this paragraph, see the many faces, and reflect on the discussions with many over these years.

I remember conversations with many of these individuals and their sharing of the times the Church was full at Christmas, standing room only. The hope of these individuals, was that one day that would happen again in their little country Church. As their eyes dimmed, the Church has grown stronger through their efforts and the efforts of many over these past nine years. As we enter into this tenth year and this Advent Season there is a connection we need to realize; as we grow closer to God, having the birth of Christ in our own lives, and proclaiming His birth for our salvation; we grow stronger.

In the still small town of Bethlehem, over-crowded by the people coming home for the census, Mary and Joseph were shuffled off to a stable to give birth to the Christ-child. In our society today, the hustle and bustle of life can easily cause us to lose sight and forget about the importance of new births, especially one in a stable by people from out of town. Overlooked, forgotten, and even missed altogether, the birth of Christ happened in the still and quiet of the night. But that night changed the world. Shepherds heard the news and came to find Mary, Joseph, and the baby, Jesus. As they left, scripture reminded us of how they told everyone about what they had seen.

Stop and imagine if you were in Bethlehem that night. Would you have noticed? Would you have been looking for the birth of Christ? Let's be honest, probably not. We hear of prophecies and their fulfillment, but these don't happen in our time and our presence. We don't anticipate their happening, in fact, we rarely look for them. So what is on the horizon that God might do in our time and near us? With all of the world's happenings, do we know the Gospel message well enough to share the gift of new life with others? Do we know the signs to be looking for? Do we know what to anticipate?

This Christmas, May we make the dreams of those before us come true. May we fill the sanctuary with family and friends, celebrating the greatest gift of all time? May we invite others to come to the celebration of the birth of Christ, like that of the angels inviting the shepherds to come and see the newborn king? May we fill the sanctuary with voices like a choir of angels! May we make it a priority to travel from afar, like the Magi in the days following to witness and bring gifts to the Christ child? May we gather with our Church family to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Christ, the light of the world coming into the world for us? May we celebrate the greatest gift given to humanity and more importantly to each one of us, Jesus? So as you shop for gifts, enjoy school band and choir concerts, attend work Christmas parties, and schedule your holidays full of items, please find time to reflect on the days gone by. Reflect on the people who have passed away over these past years, how they have touched your life, and remember their hope in this life. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

Pastor Ed Rinehart

Immanuel Church of Kettlersville
Minutes from the October 10, 2023 meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

Mark Elsass, Joe Lammers, Parker Manger, Dave Kettler, Ned Meyer, Carson Manger, Matt Wick, Ginger Holtkamp, Pastor Ed Rinehart

Absent: Diane Greer, Terri Goodwin

Mark Elsass called the meeting to order. Pastor Ed opened the meeting with prayer.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Pastor Ed read the Secretary's Report from the September 2023 meeting held for Immanuel Church of Kettlersville, Ohio.

Ginger Holtkamp moved to accept the minutes. Joe Lammers seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT:

Ginger Holtkamp reviewed the treasurer's report for the period ending September 30, 2023.

No Reconciliation report is available as the Bank Statement has not been received as of the meeting.

First page of the Treasurers report is the Financial Overview. It showed all increases and decreases in the unrestricted and restricted bank accounts to now total \$67,059.04

Page 2 reviewed the income and expense detail report for the month of September.

Total Income was \$7,524.00. The expense total was \$5461.10, for a net gain of \$2062.90.

Page 3 showed all bills for the month of September.

At the time of consistory, bills paid totaled \$7,652.04. Bills yet to be paid totaled \$1,411.26, and the total is \$9063.30.

Carson Manger moved to accept the report and pay all monthly bills.

Ned Meyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Ed reviewed the current calendar and functions that are happening. Updated the Consistory on different ministry items and dates. Pastor Ed then shared a reading called The Pastor's View and the navigation of visioning in the midst of crisis within minutes of each other. Pastor Ed reminded the Consistory that the employees are all part-time staff and work in their work at the Church around the other needs in their lives. We need to be aware of time, availability, and if we see things that need to be completed to offer a helping hand. Pastor Ed also reviewed the Calendar through the end of 2023, Worship and Sunday School attendance tracking, and gave a copy of the proposed schedule with messages for 2024.

TRUSTEE REPORT:

Ned Meyer reviewed items for Trustees, We are getting other quotes for Church Insurance. A review of the 2024 Budget has begun. Bill for the Drainage around the Church Parsonage was presented and the motion to send it to the Congregational Meeting was approved. All the old chairs and old wood tables have been removed and rearranging that area has started. The roof over the Basement Door is yet to be replaced. Life Vac is now in a bag in the kitchen. Some Plaster works are being looked at for 2024. I had a furnace issue and it was quickly repaired by Steve and Ted's. Furnaces have also been maintained.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Benevolence and Outreach:

Care and hospitality: Luncheon Pastor/Teacher Appreciation well.

Decorating: Nothing until Advent Poinsettia has been ordered.

Worship: Questions about the broadcast came up and the committee will need to meet.

Education:

Constitution: The Consistory reviewed the thoughts and processes of the feedback from the breakout sessions. One final change can solve some issues on timing. The consistory discussed to move the Congregational

meeting from the 2nd Sunday of November to the 3rd Sunday of November so that the Congregational Meeting will always fall after the November Consistory Meeting. Joe Lammers made the motion to make this final change and present it to the Congregation. Parker Manger Seconded the Motion. The motion Passed.

Youth:

OLD BUSINESS: The first Cancer Support Group Meeting met and we are moving forward with this ministry. Nominations for 2024 were discussed. We will continue to fill the positions.

Goals for 2024 were reviewed and passed. Joe Lammers moved to accept the goals, Carson Manger seconded the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

No New Business

Ginger moved to adjourn the consistory meeting.

Joe Lammers seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 14, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.

The meeting concluded with the sharing of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Ed Rinehart

Calendar of Events for December 2023

Immanuel Office Hours: Pastor Ed Tues.& Wed. afternoons and Monday from 9 am until Noon
Kelly Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am to Noon

Morning Coffee Monday through Saturday from 7 am to 8 am

December 3 rd ,	9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service – Holy Communion 2:00 pm Security Team Training 6:00 pm Youth Group
December 4 th ,	7:00 pm Women's Guild
December 6 th ,	6:30 pm Confirmation Class
December 10 th ,	9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service 11:15 am Congregational Meeting following service 12:30 pm Christmas Caroling
December 11 th ,	7:00 pm Shepherd's Sheep – Diagnosed with Cancer Support Ministry
December 12 th ,	7:00 pm Immanuel Consistory Meeting
December 13 th	11:30 am Widow & Widower's Luncheon 6:30 pm Confirmation Class
December 15 th	Newsletter Items due to the office
December 17 th ,	9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service – Installation of 2024 Consistory Children's Christmas Program during service
December 19 th ,	6:00 pm Kettlersville Well Association Mtg.
December 24 th ,	9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
December 25 th	Merry Christmas! Celebrate the birth of our Savior!
December 31 st ,	9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service

Weekly Schedule

Date:	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 24 7:00 pm	Dec 31
Liturgist	Terry Lukac	Kim Nellis	Parker Manger	Mark Elsass	Mark Elsass	Dawn Dabbelt
Greeters	Ben & Becky Schmiesing	Melanie Shellabarger Family	Kelly Shartzter Family	Ralph & JoAnn Shroyer		Travis & Jennifer Watkins
Sound booth	Kelly Shartzter & Magdalene Monnin	Dave Kettler Family	Ned Meyer & Sebastian Monnin	Matt & Levi Wick	Kelly Shartzter & Croix Monnin	Dave Kettler Family
Broadcast	Curt	Mark	Kelly	Curt	Ned	Ned
Singers	Ned, Terry, Anita	Parker, Joann, Ned	Ned, Terry, Anita	Parker, Joann, Ned		Ned, Terry, Anita

Immanuel Church Benevolence and Outreach



December 2023 - Rustic Hope - A nonprofit, located in rural Russia Ohio. They are Christ-centered, family-focused, and strongly pro-life. Rustic Hope provides free support to single mothers before, during, and after delivery. This support includes furniture, basic household items, food, vehicles, and baby items of all sorts. Rustic Hope primarily serves a six-county area, often getting referrals from other agencies. Donations of all sorts are very much appreciated and volunteers are welcomed. Rustic Hope - Because every life matters!

Giving Tree - end of November/December - The giving tree in the back of the church is for Rustic Hope. Please take one or more tags from the tree, purchase the items, and bring them back to church, unwrapped. Some of the items needed include diapers, wet wipes, shampoo/conditioner, laundry detergent, toilet paper, kid's socks, and kid's winter boots. Rustic Hope is our December benevolence recipient and cash donations may be given via the Benevolent offering throughout the month of December. All items should be brought to church by December 24.

January 2024 - FISH (Friends In Service to Humanity) - Their mission is to provide emergency assistance to the needy people residing in Shelby County in the form of food, clothing, medicine, and other necessities. Besides the food pantry, FISH also has a thrift store. The thrift store is open to the public & they encourage everyone to come & shop. The proceeds from the store are then used to fulfill FISH's mission. They accept donations of clothing, linens, and household items for the thrift store. Donations of non-perishable food & personal care products are accepted for the food pantry. FISH is also looking for volunteers. FISH has been active in Shelby County since 1979 & Immanuel Church was one of the four churches to assist in the early years of this organization. FISH is located at 1128 W Michigan St, Sidney Ohio.

February 2024 - Epiphany Ministry of Ohio - Epiphany is an ecumenical Christian ministry for young men & women who are in custody at Juvenile Justice Facilities. Epiphany's purpose is to manifest God's love to incarcerated and troubled youth. Ginger Holtkamp is a member of the Epiphany team.



Widow and Widowers Luncheon!

A luncheon for all widows and widowers on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. The meal is scheduled to begin at 11:30 am in Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall.

Whether you are returning or just joining, please come and enjoy the fellowship! Join us – **December 13th at 11:30 am**

Menu: Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Honey Corn, Salad, and Dessert served with coffee, water, or tea!

The Youth Group will meet on the first Sunday of each month. Join Hattie and Morgan in the fellowship hall from 6:00 until 7:30 pm.

December Birthdays

December 5 th	Saundra Hirschfeld
December 6 th	Tate Hampton
December 7 th	Jeff Kuck
December 9 th	Robert May Jr.
December 12 th	Lori Bensman
December 12 th	Larry Hirschfeld
December 13 th	Leslie Krieg
December 17 th	Delaney Heitkamp
December 19 th	Thomas Blanchard
December 23 rd	Magdalene Monnin
December 23 rd	Travis Watkins
December 25 th	Joann Shroyer
December 26 th	Emmitt Heitkamp
December 29 th	Don Shartzter
December 29 th	Grace Maurer
December 30 th	Tim Ike
December 30 th	Keith Manger



December Anniversaries

December 1 st	Ernesto & Katie Casillas
December 3 rd	Larry & Diane Greer
December 11 th	Shannon & Terri Holt
December 28 th	Don & Rita McCullough

If your Birthdate or Anniversary has been missed please let the Church Office know so that we may check our records for incorrect or missing information.



Christmas Caroling is planned for December 10th. All are invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall following the Congregational Meeting for a quick lunch before caroling. We are hoping for a big crowd to join in spreading some Christmas cheer for our shut-ins and enjoy some fellowship with each other!

Advent Schedule:

December 3rd First Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
Youth Group

December 10th Second Sunday of Advent
Congregational Meeting
Christmas Caroling

December 17th Third Sunday of Advent
Consistory for 2024 Installation
Children's Christmas Program during Worship

December 24th Fourth Sunday of Advent
No Sunday School
7 pm Christmas Eve Service with Candle lighting and Holy Communion
Poinsettia orders can be picked up following this service



Special Thanks:

We want to express our gratitude to our Immanuel family for their compassion, prayers, and support during Adam's illness and death. You made a difficult time easier. Thank you!

Ralph and Joann



SCRAPBOOKING/CARD MAKING EVENT

WHERE: Immanuel Church of Kettlersville

Friday, Jan 12, and/or Saturday, Jan 13

Friday, Feb 9, and/or Saturday, Feb 10

Friday (1:00 pm-?) and Saturday (9 am-4 pm) Cost \$35

Friday evening and Saturday (9 am-4 pm) Cost \$30

Just Saturday Cost: \$20

Cost includes: 8 ft. table, lunch (Saturday), door prizes

Bring Tools, cutting equipment, lighting, ext. cords, etc.

Limited space available. Forms are available in the sanctuary.

Contact Dawn Dabbelt @ 419-733-9598 – 4dabbelts@nktelco.net,

Rebecca Lenhart @ 937-538-1760 – lenhartr@watchtv.net if any questions



Sunday, December 10th following the Morning Worship Service will be our Congregational Meeting. On the agenda are the 2024 Proposed Goals, the 2024 Committee and Consistory Nominations, and the 2024 Church Budget. All members present will be invited to vote on these items. Non-members are welcome to stay for the meeting but are not permitted to vote.

Immanuel Church Financial Overview

for the period October 01, 2023, to October 31, 2023

Type	Account Name	Begin Balance	Increase	Decrease	End Balance
First National Bank					
	Unrestricted	\$45,484.53	\$11,885.96	\$9,935.21	\$47,435.28
	Restricted	\$20,163.25	\$2,118.46	\$713.66	\$21,568.05
		\$65,647.78	\$14,004.42	\$10,648.87	\$69,003.33
	Advent Flowers	\$0.00	\$353.50	\$0.00	\$353.50
	Benevolent Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	10 Oct Benevolence	\$0.00	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$790.00
	Adam & Amy Burkey Missionaries	\$60.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$110.00
	Improvement Fund	\$3,219.00	\$675.00	\$0.00	\$3,894.00
	Memorial Fund	\$524.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$524.14
	Bill Elsass Mem	\$1,422.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,422.00
	Dale Egbert Mem	\$1,895.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,895.00
	Doris Dillon	\$1,009.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,009.30
	Elaine Timmerman	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
	Harvey Watkins Mem	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$425.00
	Lucille Meyer Mem	\$1,580.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,580.00
	Marilyn Eutrecht	\$640.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$640.00
	Peggy Watkins	\$761.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$761.00
	Ray Egbert Mem	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00
	Roy Baucom Mem	\$590.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$590.00
	Todd Shellabarger Mem	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
	Prayer Garden	\$317.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$317.11
	Sunday School Fund	\$720.00	\$176.96	\$0.00	\$896.96
	Widow and Widower Fund	\$464.50	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$506.50
	Luncheon Expense Money	\$733.16	\$31.00	\$0.00	\$764.16
	Youth Fellowship Fund	\$4,723.04	\$0.00	\$128.66	\$4,594.38
		\$20,163.25	\$2,118.46	\$713.66	\$21,568.05

If you have questions, concerns, or items regarding the Financial Report please contact a Church Trustee.