
Expressions of Immanuel Church

March 2024

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,

How powerful is it to realize that Jesus, the Christ, the Messiah, became the Great Shepherd for us, giving up his life willingly to protect us, save us, and set us free from the fear, terror, and agony of the Great Beast, Satan?

We often talk about Jesus as being the Sacrificial Lamb, becoming the sinless sacrifice to fulfill the Old Testament Covenant and Law. However, we overlook one key element, Jesus, was the Great Shepherd when he did this and not just a perfect lamb. Oh, I know we have passages that speak to this and that Jesus is the Lamb of God. I am

not arguing this point, however, Jesus was already our shepherd. Jesus was the shepherd to Peter, James, and John, to the eight other disciples, and even to Judas, the betrayer. Jesus was guiding the sheep, leading them, teaching them, and promoting them not to remain sheep but to become like Christ, a shepherd.



In many ways, we continue to live as sheep in need of a shepherd. Yes, we will always need our shepherd, Christ. But we are not to solely remain as sheep either. We are to be transformed, anointed, ordained, and set apart for the Godly work, God has for us to do through the redeeming strength and work of Jesus. We are to take responsibility for the flock under our care, family, co-workers, neighbors, friends, and others around us. We help them to understand the Lordship of Christ. It's not that Jesus is in a seat of authority over us, heck we are invited to be seated next to Christ not beneath him. It is our understanding of those words of Psalm 23, "The Lord IS my Shepherd, I shall not want." We place Jesus in a position of leadership in our life, because we love him, trust him, and owe our life to him. Christ, the Good Shepherd, died protecting us. Christ did the duty of a loving shepherd, he laid down his life to protect the sheep.

The position of shepherd has been left vacant through the death and resurrection of Christ. It is the very reinstallation of Peter beside the Sea of Galilee before Jesus ascended into Heaven that we understand the commissioning, the apostolic succession of the authority of becoming a shepherd. "Do you love me, feed my sheep!" "Do you love me, feed my lambs!" "Do you love me, take care of my sheep!" Peter, be a shepherd and as you do this, I will give you my Holy Spirit and I will go and prepare a place for you, that when I come back, I can take you to be where I am going."

Do you understand, that as Jesus died as the Great Shepherd, he died as the sinless lamb proving for us the way to become like Him? Do you further understand, that as a disciple, a student of Christ, we are called and anointed to become teachers of Christ as well? Yes, we are students for life, but we are also teachers, caregivers, helpers, and shall I say it, shepherds of Christ. "He who lays down his life for my sake with find it." We are called to live a sacrificial shepherding life, filled with love, devotion, conviction, and temperament so that we may protect, defend and restore sheep.

Knowing these facts, we cannot sit idly by and pass the buck and overlook the sin, and the disgust in our society without trying to nurture and helping others to know that Jesus Christ is Lord. We need to feed the lamb, care for the sheep, and nurture their love for Christ so that they may say, "The Lord is My shepherd, I shall not want any other shepherd, or device, or vice, only that who is the True Son of God."

May the crucifixion of Christ, his death, and his resurrection profoundly impact your life this Lenten Season and may you desire to become a shepherd of a part of the flock of God's Kingdom? May it begin today and transform you every day as you grow into the likeness of Christ.

Sincerely,

Pastor Ed Rinehart

Immanuel Church of Kettlersville
Minutes from the January 9, 2024 Meeting

Attendance: Mark Elsass, Pastor Ed Rinehart, Parker Manger, Ginger Holtkamp, Dave Kettler, Matt Wick, Diane Greer, Missy Wells, Paul Bambauer and Dawn Dabbelt

Absent: Carson Manger

Mark asked Pastor to open the meeting with Prayer.

The 2024 Election of Consistory Officers was as follows:

The nomination was made by Ginger to have Parker M. as the 2024 Consistory Chair, seconded by Dave K. Motion passed. The nomination was made by Ginger to have Missy as the 2024 Consistory Vice Chair, seconded by Paul. Motion passed. The nomination was made by Missy to have Dawn as the 2024 Consistory Secretary, seconded by Mark. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Dawn read the Consistory Minutes for the December 2023 meeting. Ginger made a motion to accept the December 12, 2023 minutes as presented. Missy seconded the motion. The motions passed.

Treasurer's report:

Ginger Holtkamp reviewed the treasurer's report for the period ending December 31, 2023. Beginning balance was \$62,325.13. Miscellaneous decreases totaled \$718.40. Checks and payments cleared equaled \$9506.60. Deposits and credits totaled equaled \$12,983.10 for a cleared balance of \$65,083.23. Page 2 showed an un-cleared balance of \$59,175.99. Page 3 showed all increases and decreases in the unrestricted and restricted bank accounts to now total \$65,256.95. Page 4 reviewed the income and expense details for December. Page 5 shows the Financial Overview for the year ending 2023. Page 6 showed all bills for January. At the time of consistory, bills paid totaled \$7681.16. Bills yet to be paid totaled \$2822.52, and the total is \$10,503.68.

Pastor's Report:

- Confirmation continues to be going well. 9 classes left. We have 3 young adults who will be received into membership on Easter Sunday. They will be sharing their statements of faith on Palm Sunday. Advised that we had an extra guest this past week. He commented that he wanted to attend a Bible Study. The pastor invited him to join.
- Sermon Series for January through Easter is a Shepherd theme and then moves into aspects of Jesus as our Shepherd and also as the Lamb of God.
- Attendance update – this past year's averages are in-house 88, Facebook 111, YouTube 27, and Fall Sunday School 47. Sunday School to Worship attendance compares to 53% of our average worship attendance. November 19, when the congregation shared their joys and thanksgivings was the highest watched Facebook broadcast yet – 248 views.
- In January, the Pastor will be working on creating the Year End Report to be presented to the February Consistory for approval.
- February 13 will be a consistory meeting and February 14 will be an Ash Wednesday service. Leslie and Pastor are discussing a Maundy Thursday, March 28 with a Seder Supper in Fellowship Hall. Discussion will be do we make this our Maundy Thursday service or have the Seder Service? Good Friday will be open to the church for a time of devotion and prayer. Easter is March 31.
- Pastor will be out of town tending to his parents, Sunday evening, Jan 14 – Tuesday, Jan 16. He and Jodi will be on vacation, on Thursday, Feb 15, and return on Feb 20.

Trustee's Report:

- Plastering and Painting. Plastering is done and will need time to cure. Painting in the next few months.
- Elevator Inspection Variance/Compliance. Paul has signed the document to be emailed.

Committee Report:

Benevolent and Outreach – Nothing to Report

Care and Hospitality – Widow/Widower Luncheon, Wed, Jan 10. Ginger advised that they will be having speakers for a few of the luncheons. Ginger asked for additional assistance with items to be done. Diane agreed to assist.

Decorating – Christmas decorations put away. Dave thanked all who assisted. Easter Flower orders will begin soon.

Worship – Microphones for singing in the sanctuary

Education – Leslie and Pastor discussing Seder Supper for Maundy Thursday. Parker confirmed all going well with the Sunday School Dept.

Youth – Souper Bowl Sunday, Feb 11 following church.

Shepherd's Sheep (Cancer Support Ministry) – had two in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Assigned Committee Liaisons for the following:

- Benevolent and Outreach – Dawn
 - Care and Hospitality – Diane
 - Decoration – Dave
 - Worship – Missy
 - Education – Parker
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- The Paper Supplies Cabinet is being handled by the Church Office. If you see supplies running low, please advise the office.
 - Open Committee Positions: This will be posted in the bulletin and newsletter to let the congregation know that assistance is needed in a few areas.
 - Church Rental Process: The current form was handed out to all to review. A little bit of back history is given and that updating is needed. This will be tabled for future meetings.
 - Mark advised that he was approached by a member regarding abortion and possibly adding to our constitution. That was tabled for future discussion since we were in the process of updating large sections of the Constitution. This was tabled from the December meeting and will be tabled to the February meeting.
 - A Motion was made to appoint Dawn D. to be Deacon. This had to be done since the nominations for officers had been closed during the Congregational Meeting. Ginger made the motion and Mark seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kettlersville Well Association Water Rate – a bill was received for the first quarter of 2024 of \$315. This was received without any notification of such an increase. The association is no longer meeting at the church. Water is drawn daily from the church to report to the EPA. Parker asked for a volunteer to attend their next meeting to revert to the current rates. Mark will make contact.

Ginger moved to adjourn the meeting. Missy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The next meeting is Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 7:00 pm

The meeting concluded with sharing the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Dabbelt

Calendar of Events for March 2024

Immanuel Office Hours: Pastor Ed Kelly 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

March 3rd 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service – Holy Communion
 6:00 pm Youth Group

March 4th 7:00 pm Women’s Guild

March 6th 6:30 pm Confirmation Class

March 10th Daylight Savings Time begins – Spring ahead!
 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service

March 11th 7:00 pm Shepherd’s Sheep – Diagnosed with Cancer Support Ministry

March 12th 7:00 pm Immanuel Consistory Meeting

March 13th 11:30 am Widow & Widower’s Luncheon
 6:30 pm Confirmation Class

March 15th Newsletter Items due to the office

March 17th. 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service

March 20th. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class

March 24th Palm Sunday
 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service
 11:30 am Basement Reserved

March 28th. 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday service in the Sanctuary

March 29th Good Friday church open 1 pm -4 pm

March 31st Easter Sunday
 9:00 am Sunday School
 10:15 am Immanuel Service and Online Service

Weekly Schedule

Date:	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 28 Maundy Thurs.	March 31
Liturgist	Anita Lukac	Dawn Dabbelt	Terri Goodwin	Kim Nellis		Terry Lukac
Greeters	Jan Egbert & Terri Goodwin	Craig & Erin Eisert	Bonnie Elsass & Mark Elsass	Larry & Diane Greer		Jamie Hamilton Family
Sound booth	Matt Wick & Will Lammers	Mark Elsass & Croix Monnin	Dave Kettler Family	Matt & Levi Wick		Mark Elsass & Will Lammers
Broadcast	Ned Meyer	Kelly	Mark	Mark		Ned
Singers	Ned, Terry, Anita	Parker, Joann, Ned	Ned, Terry, Anita	Parker, Joann, Ned	Ned, Terry, Anita	Parker, Joann, Ned

Special Thanks:

May God bless you for the generous donation to our ministry!

Rustic Hope

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.

Immanuel Church Benevolence and Outreach

March 2024 - Bevan & Laura Stein - missionaries in Slovakia -

The Steins have been missionaries in Slovakia for almost 28 years. They minister to orphans & special needs children via camps, programs, & equine therapy. He also has a ministry to "unchurched bikers." After the war broke out in Ukraine, Bevan Stein has been trucking humanitarian relief into many parts of Ukraine. They also began a ministry helping refugees from South Sudan who have traveled to Uganda (Africa).



April 2024 - Matthew 25 Ministries (m25m) - They are a humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping disaster relief victims and the poor locally, regionally, and internationally. They are based out of Cincinnati Ohio. Their mission is to fulfill Matthew 25:34-40. Besides monetary donations, m25m also accepts donations from corporations, organizations, and individuals. These items are then processed and shipped where needed. Volunteer opportunities are available at their processing center. For more information, go to m25m's website: www.m25m.org

May 2024 - Doug & Kathy McClain - missionaries in Germany - Their ministry involves bringing the Gospel to people in Pirmasens, Germany, disciplining them to spiritual maturity, and guiding them into service for Christ's kingdom. The McClains also work with refugees in Kusel, Germany. Less than 2% of the German people are truly Bible-believing Christians.



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 – **March 13th at 11:30 am**

Menu: Sloppy Joes, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Salad, and Dessert served with coffee, water, or iced tea!

Guest speaker: Katie Tester, RN will be speaking about Child Wellness Program.

March Birthdays

March 5 th	Bailey Watkins
March 6 th	Chloe Egbert
March 6 th	Julia Casillas
March 7 th	Makala Wick
March 11 th	Chloe Webb
March 12 th	Josephine Casillas
March 12 th	Bill Nellis
March 16 th	Margie Shroyer
March 16 th	Clara Maurer
March 17 th	Rebecca Lenhart
March 17 th	Rev. Ed Rinehart
March 22 nd	Sebastian Monnin
March 22 nd	Croix Monnin
March 29 th	Violet Krieg



Happy Anniversary

March Anniversaries

March 4 th	Bill & Missy Wells
March 5 th	Chris & Erin Heitkamp
March 16 th	Don & Kelly Shartzter
March 19 th	AJ & Jaclyn Mast
March 25 th	Johnny & Jennifer Blanchard

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.



Calling all that attend Immanuel Church!

We have two committees that do and can do a tremendous ministry if equipped. You do not need to be a member of the Church to serve on these committees. We have 3 positions open on the **Care and Hospitality Committee**. From

sending out Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, and Thinking of You cards, to welcoming people as the body of believers at Immanuel Church. This committee is the smiling and welcoming group of the Church. It also helps to minister to needs inside the Church body. Widow and Widowers Luncheon, Cancer Support Group Ministry, and as we relook at a nursery/ kids space in the fellowship hall during worship. This committee does a long list of items.

Benevolent and Outreach Committee is also in need of assistance. From organizing the missional outreach of the larger Church body to changing the Church sign and looking at opportunities for Evangelism, this committee is also looking for 2-3 additional people. Help Immanuel be more effective.

Immanuel Church Financial Overview

for the period January 01, 2024, to February 12, 2024

Type	Account Name	Begin Balance	Increase	Decrease	End Balance
First National Bank					
	Unrestricted	\$46,097.73	\$11,145.70	\$16,649.75	\$40,593.68
	Restricted	\$19,137.80	\$1,619.10	\$3,390.00	\$17,366.90
		\$65,235.53	\$12,764.80	\$20,039.75	\$57,960.58
	Advent Flowers	\$4.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.86
	Benevolent Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	02 Feb Benevolence	\$0.00	\$155.00	\$0.00	\$155.00
	Adam & Amy Burkey -	\$230.00	\$160.00	\$320.00	\$70.00
	Missionaries				
	Easter Flowers	\$0.00	\$335.50	\$0.00	\$335.50
	Improvement Fund	\$485.00	\$335.00	\$0.00	\$820.00
	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	\$1,112.35	\$160.60	\$0.00	\$1,272.95
	Widow and Widower Fund	\$157.50	\$23.00	\$0.00	\$180.50
	Luncheon Expense	\$275.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.16
	Money				
	Youth Fellowship Fund	\$4,594.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,594.38
		\$19,137.80	\$1,619.10	\$3,390.00	\$17,366.90

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