



IMMANUEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
transforming tradition

*"In life and in death
we belong to God."*

We have been called
to belong to the
body of Christ
and to seek God's purposes
in this place.
Immanuel Presbyterian
Church is
our home, where we grow
and welcome all;
our community, where we
care for one another and
serve others.
We promise
to worship regularly,
to learn openly,
to give generously,
to live together in the unity
of the Spirit
as a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (USA)
and to share the work of
mission and ministry . . .
transforming tradition in the
church and in the world.

*This covenant was written
and adopted by the Session
for Immanuel's 175th
Anniversary as an
expression of what
it means to be a member of
Immanuel Presbyterian
Church.*

TOWER CHIMES

March 2019

What does the C.A.T. say? PROFILE + PRIORITIES + PURPOSE

Wednesday evenings during Lent
March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10
6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Upper Room

*Soup suppers + table worship and the Lord's Supper +
conversations about our calling as a community*

In the presentations and conversations over the weeks of Lent we will hear from the results of this fall's Congregational Assessment Tool ("CAT") and consider the profile and priorities that emerged. We will also look beyond the descriptive data to our calling as a faith community for the future. How do we discern God's purposes for Immanuel Church? What is our calling?

Discussions will include these identified priorities: growth, forming meaningful relationships, healing broken lives, expanding outreach to those living on the margins of society, and educating at every stage of life.

Those who participated in the survey are especially encouraged to continue this important process by engaging in this next step.

A simple supper of soup and bread is served at 6:00.
Please reserve on Sunday mornings or call the church office
(414-276-4757).

Table worship follows, with scripture and sacrament.

CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE!
Spring Quarter begins; Thank you teachers
Upper Room Meal - April 14

The children and teachers of the Immanuel Church School will complete their winter quarter on Sunday, March 3. Many thanks to the teachers who have given their time, talent, and love to our children during these winter months: Deborah Anderson, Sarah Dominguez, Ann Eisenbrown, Debbie Gillard, and Jon Richards. The spring quarter of Church School begins on March 10 with teachers Laurie Michalak (Preschool - K5), Susan Teerink (Grades 1-3), Audra Brennan (Grades 4-6), and Jon Richards (Grades 7-11).

In addition to regular church school classes, where children learn and celebrate the stories of our faith, the spring calendar includes our annual Upper Room Meal on Palm Sunday, April 14. This is a wonderful intergenerational event at which both children and adults begin the Holy Week journey with a "first century" meal and the Lord's Supper around tables in our own Upper Room.

Please contact Ms. Dow in the church office (414-276-4757) for additional information.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
LAUNCHED
Tornado Drill held February 17

On Sunday, February 17, Immanuel hosted a brief tornado drill following worship, taking the first step in engaging a new Emergency Operations Plan recently adopted by the Session. The new plan balances hospitality and safety in addressing preparation and response for emergencies like a fire, tornado, or active threat (shooter).

Thank you to all who participated in the Tornado Drill. The drill was a great way to begin to grow our congregation's situational awareness as we roll out and live into our new Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). A special thanks to the ushers, Church School teachers, and our security team and custodian, Cornelius Jones, for their help guiding worshippers smoothly through the drill.

Copies of the EOP are available on the Great Hall tables or from the church office.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on April 20 and the Day of Pentecost, June 9. Please speak with one of the ministers if you desire to profess your faith or present a child for baptism.

INTERFAITH MARCH
LUNCHEON/LECTURE SERIES

Exploring Immigration

Tuesdays in March at noon

First Unitarian Society + 1342 N. Astor Street

March 5 - MKE's Changing Immigration Landscape

March 12 - Human Rights & the Environment

March 19 - Where is the Welcome Mat for Refugees?

March 26 - Changes in Law & Policies

Register at: www.interfaithconference.org

"LARRY UNDER THE BRIDGE" MINISTRY
Sunday, March 17

On Sunday, March 17, Immanuel volunteers will prepare lunches for "Larry Under the Bridge," a food and encouragement ministry to the homeless in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood, sponsored by Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church. If you would like to contribute sandwich ingredients, cookies, water, or fruit for these lunches - or if you would like to assist with preparation - please sign up in the Parlor on Sunday morning. Thank you for assisting with this important ministry.

LUNCH BUNCH
at University Christian Ministries
Wednesday, April 10

On Wednesday, April 10, Immanuel volunteers will bring a taste of home to students through the "Lunch Bunch" program at University Christian Ministries (UCM), the cooperative Protestant campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

One of UCM's oldest and most popular programs, "Lunch Bunch" serves a free lunch every Wednesday to nearly 100 students. Local congregations support the program by providing the meal and volunteers to serve it each week. Immanuel Church usually volunteers once in the fall and once in the spring. Watch for a sign-up sheet in Coffee Hour later this month to volunteer to help provide the meal on April 10. For more information or questions, please contact Sue Rennane or Ms. Dow in the church office (414-276-4757, jeandow@immanuelwi.org).

UPDATE FROM AFRICA!
Emily Teerink, Young Adult Volunteer
reports on her experience in Zambia

Immanuel member Emily Teerink is currently serving in Zambia as a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) with the Presbyterian Church (USA). She lives with a host family in Lundazi and works with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Relief and Development Department on establishing and maintaining village savings groups to support subsistence farmers. The Immanuel Session and Presbytery of Milwaukee made gifts to support Ms. Teerink and her ministry. Two excerpts from her recent BLOG posts are included below. For more information, to read her BLOG, or to help support Emily's ministry with the Young Adult Volunteer program, please go to: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/emily-teerink/>

Nshima and Zambian Food Culture + February 25, 2019

"What is your staple food?" Almost every time I meet a new person here in Zambia, this is one of the first questions I am asked. Zambians are surprised when I tell them there isn't a staple food in America because nshima, the staple food of Zambia, is central to their culture. Nshima is maize flour that is boiled until it reaches a play-doh-like consistency. It is served with relish, which can be anything from meat to eggs to beans to seasonal vegetables and is eaten with your hand. Most families eat nshima twice a day.

"Do you eat nshima?" This is another question I get asked frequently. The answer is yes. I eat whatever my host family is eating, which is usually nshima. However, I do struggle to eat it twice in a day. I also get very excited to eat other types of food when I am in Lusaka because I miss the variety of foods I am used to back home.

"Do you know how to cook nshima?" No! While I have helped stir the pot of nshima numerous times and I know the general steps to making it, without many rounds of trial and error, I am not sure that I will ever really learn to make nshima on my own. Nshima cannot be made by following a recipe. It is all made by sight and intuition. Everyone I know, particularly women and girls, have been making nshima for their families for as long as they can remember.

Unlike my Zambian counterparts, I have not been making nshima my entire life. In fact, the topic of food is probably the area that I notice the most differences between my own upbringing and Zambian culture. I hate cooking. It is absolutely my least favorite thing to do. However, for Zambian girls, it is an expectation that they cook for their families. Cooking along with the other house chores they must do is all preparation for them to be good wives someday.

There is a lot of pressure put on young women to make themselves marketable future wives. No one in my Zambian community can really understand why I do not like cooking and I often get asked, "but what are you going to do when you get married?" I usually try to explain that I was raised in a home where I was taught that women are not solely responsible for taking care of the home and family and if and when I eventually get married, I will marry someone who shares this same value as me.

Food is a very important aspect of Zambian culture. Zambians are really proud to call nshima their staple food. Anytime there is a gathering or meeting of some sort there is an expectation of food. However, at the same time, food is central to the divided gender roles prevalent in Zambian society. I appreciate that food has given me the opportunity to learn a lot about Zambian culture while at the same time provided an outlet for me to explain how my culture and upbringing differs.

Happy 2019 from Zambia! + January 20, 2019

The holiday season has come and gone as fast as it always does. However, like so many of my experiences in Zambia, this holiday season was celebrated in a much different manner from what I am used to back in the states. While the shopping malls in Lusaka were decked out with Christmas decorations just like they are in the US, nothing about Lundazi reminded me of Christmas except for the date on the calendar. In some ways this was really refreshing. In the US we tend to get so caught up in the gifts and commercial aspect of Christmas, we forget about the real reason for the holiday. Even though Zambia is a Christian nation, Christmas was treated like another day of the week. Churches had Christmas morning services and afterwards families might have enjoyed a slightly more special meal together, typically rice and chicken, but otherwise it was business as usual. My favorite part of Christmas in the US is spending time with extended family I only see once a year. I was surprised to learn that even family gatherings are not typical for Zambians during Christmas time. I was lucky to have two host siblings home on school break during the holiday season, but even with them home, my family did not do anything to celebrate.

On Christmas Day, since my family didn't have any plans, I went with a friend to a nearby village to see traditional dancing. These traditional dances take place in the villages on Independence Day, Christmas and New Years. I enjoyed the traditional dancing, but besides the Christmas activities I described above, Christmas is also a popular drinking holiday like New Years Eve is in the US (and Zambia too). In the village, I received a little too much attention as the only mzungu there from people in the "holiday" spirit. Regardless, my Zambian Christmas, though simple, was very memorable.

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 6, 2019

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

(following a soup supper in the Upper Room at 6:00)

We begin the season of Lent with the imposition of ashes and the Lord's Supper, marking the reality of mortality and the promise of life.

“ ‘ *In life and in death ...*’

The Journey of Bread and Ashes”

Dr. Block

Special music by pianist Richard Stoll

“Sign us with ashes, merciful God, children of dust, as to dust we return.

Sign us with ashes, merciful God. Mark us and make us your own.”

Mary Louise Bringle, “Sign Us with Ashes” © 2003

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 2019

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
framed by Franz Schubert's *Mass in G*
with chamber orchestra
Dr. Block preaching

We begin the season of Lent every year with sacred music for the liturgy of the communion service. On this Sunday we hear of Jesus' fasting in the wilderness and are nourished by the bread of life from his table.

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS
MARCH 2019
at Immanuel Presbyterian Church

March 3	TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
8:45 – 12:00	Child Care for infants & toddlers - <i>Nursery</i>
8:55	Choir rehearsal
10:00	Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
10:30	Church School in the <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i>
11:15	“Shrove Sunday” Pancake Brunch - <i>Upper Room</i>
12:15	Prospective Member Event & Orientation - <i>Parlor</i>
March 10	FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
	SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION; NEW MEMBER WELCOME
8:45 – 12:00	Child Care for infants & toddlers - <i>Nursery</i>
8:55	Choir rehearsal
10:00	Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
	Special music: Schubert “ <i>Mass in G</i> ”
11:00	Church School in the <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i>
11:10	Formal Coffee Hour - <i>Church Parlor</i>
March 17	SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
8:45 – 12:00	Child Care for infants & toddlers - <i>Nursery</i>
8:55	Choir rehearsal
10:00	Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
10:30	Church School in the <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i>
11:00	Coffee and refreshments - <i>Church Parlor</i>
11:15	“Larry Under the Bridge” project - <i>Upper Room Kitchen</i>
March 24	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
8:45 – 12:00	Child Care for infants & toddlers - <i>Nursery</i>
8:55	Choir rehearsal
10:00	Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
10:30	Church School - <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i>
11:00	Coffee and refreshments - <i>Church Parlor</i>
11:20	Update on staffing transition (HR Committee) - <i>Upper Room</i>
March 31	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
8:45 – 12:00	Child Care for infants & toddlers - <i>Nursery</i>
8:55	Choir rehearsal
10:00	Morning Worship; Dr. Block preaching
10:30	Church School - <i>Peaceable Kingdom</i>
11:00	Coffee and refreshments - <i>Church Parlor</i>
11:20	CAT results overview and summary

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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The deadline for the April issue of the *Tower Chimes* is March 27.

Please send newsletter contributions to Mr. Ater.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Spring will come again!

Ash Wednesday – March 6

Daylight Saving Time begins – Sunday, March 10

Lenten Soup Suppers – Wednesdays: March 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10

UCM Lunch Bunch – Wednesday, April 10

Palm Sunday & Upper Room Meal – Sunday, April 14

Maundy Thursday – April 18

Good Friday – April 19

Holy Saturday & Easter Vigil – April 20

Easter – Sunday, April 21

MAM Outing to see “Art of Devotion” exhibit – Sunday, April 28

Annual Program Meeting – Sunday, May 19

Day of Pentecost & Jean Dow Retirement Celebration – Sunday, June 9

Youth Mission Retreat – June 23 - 28