



October, 2016

Newsletter

Immanuel United Church

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The Luke Project, Anyone?

After so much creative effort was put into wonderfully compelling storytelling in *The Mark Project* last winter and spring, one would think that I might hesitate so much as to mention the possibility of our delving into the telling of the stories of the Gospel of Luke, and of starting such an undertaking as early as Advent (which, this year, starts as early as Advent can start). But one would be wrong. Inspired by Luke's own brash persuasiveness in presenting his stories, I'm going to try to sell you the concept of *our* telling the stories of Luke's Gospel through the seasons of Advent and Lent that lie ahead of us in the coming church year. And by *our* telling the stories I mean *your* telling the stories, as some of you did last spring.

Luke's stories cry out to be told in worship, and to be *told*, in a dramatic fashion, rather than to be *read*. In fact, once Luke got started telling his stories, he couldn't stop, and so, when he was done writing his Gospel, he carried on with the sequel, known to us as *The Acts of the Apostles*. Each of the Gospel writers had his own perspective on the life of Jesus, and although they all knew some of the same stories, each had his own repertoire to share, and to share in a particular way.

Luke's repertoire is very distinctive. The Angel Gabriel. That's Luke, and only Luke. Zechariah and Elizabeth. Luke and only Luke. Simeon and Anna. Luke alone. Mary's Magnificat. Luke. "And it came to pass, in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed . . ." Luke. The shepherds in the fields. Luke. The visit to the temple. Luke. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to preach good news to the poor . . ." Luke. Mary, sitting at the feet of Jesus while Martha gets supper ready. Luke. The Good Samaritan. Luke. The Prodigal Son. Luke. The Persistent Widow. Luke. It's likely that the Gospel stories most familiar to you come from Luke's Gospel. In fact, you probably could tell one or two of them by heart even now, without even looking at the written stories. And if you couldn't, all the better—you could read the stories, then tell the Good News in a fresh way—as actual *news*.

And so, whether or not you were one of our storytellers in *The Mark Project*, I'm asking you to consider taking the risk of participating in *The Luke Project* by joining in a workshop on Saturday, October 29th, then sitting awhile with one of Luke's stories, then telling that story in worship, either during Advent (which begins November 27th) or later, in Lent (Lent 1 is March 5th). You're invited to give this some thought, talk to me, Lynne Strome or Leslie Donnelly about it if you wish, then sign up on the sheet in the Amen Corner, to give us an idea of the interest level among potential storytellers. Alternatively, if you simply enjoyed the telling of Mark's stories in worship, and would like to hear Luke's stories as a member of the congregation, your opinion would be appreciated.

Thanks for giving this some thought! I'll look forward to conversation with you about this, and will hover by the sign-up sheet in hopes of seeing your name there. (But no pressure, of course!)

Nancy

A Room with a View



I had a wonderful summer and now fall is upon us and I am back into the swing of things. I have been busy in the office and look forward to the Fowl Supper. Any questions/ concerns please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator



Retirees Luncheon

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Noon – 2pm



These luncheons are an opportunity to visit with one another, share lunch and enjoy some entertainment. There is a sign up sheet in the AMEN corner. A basket is provided at the luncheon for donations to cover expenses of the lunch and an honorarium for the entertainers.

All retirees and wanna-be retirees are invited.



Fowl Supper

**Saturday, October 22, 2016
4:00 to 7:00 pm**

**\$15.00 per person
\$8.00/children 14 years of age and under
Children age 7 and under Free**

**\$40.00/Family
Includes 2 Adults with children (under 14 years of age)**

**Immanuel United Church
755 Golspie Street
669-0220**

Fowl Supper

Yes, it's our opportunity to invite our friends, neighbours and family in for dinner. This year, we are preparing for 500 guests. That's the number we've served the last couple of years.

We are available for sign up in the Amen corner after worship or contact me at **204-793-1286** or by email afryza@msn.com. We can always use young legs to serve! Do you know any "young-older" grandchildren, nieces, nephews or friends who would like to join in the fun and give us a hand.

Mark it on your calendar, invite folks by telephone, or through your e-mail list. We'll be ready to provide hospitality for our guests who want to enjoy a delicious dinner.

Alison Fryza



Immanuel's Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank

We operated twice in July and August. Since we started in 2003 we have only been open once a month during the summer. It was very successful and I thank Linda Gibson, Brenda Tate and Jim Jost who filled in for regular volunteers on holidays. Lots of fresh produce was available and greatly appreciated. Since then our supplies have been very sparse. Manitoba Food Banks are being spread very thin with refugees arriving and different situations up north. So please remember when you are grocery shopping to share a few items for the Winnipeg Harvest Bins. Here at Immanuel we ask you to continue to save plastic grocery bags, the large plastic shopping bags, plastic vegetable and fruit bags, the long plastic bags the newspaper comes in, egg cartons, feminine products, toilet paper, diapers size 4 and 6. Some of our clients volunteer to help us on their food bank day. Many thanks for your support of our food bank.

Joyce Smyth

Women's Build for Habitat for Humanity

Immanuel provided morning and afternoon coffee breaks one day in the first week in June. We were greeted with open arms. They were ready for their morning break. I have already thanked all the people at Immanuel who were responsible for providing these breaks, even if George and I got lost finding the build. The builds held throughout the summer and fall are now completed and deserving families are enjoying their first home making it their own. I will be keeping you informed re the "big" Jimmy Carter build here for Winnipeg in 2017 when 500 volunteers will be arriving in Winnipeg to build 20 homes. This means breakfast, lunch and coffee breaks. I will keep you posted.

Joyce Smyth



River Elm School Breakfast Program

Immanuel United Church congregation is starting its seventh year sponsoring the River Elm Elementary School Breakfast Program.

Immanuel's commitment to this worthwhile program is to provide volunteers and financial support for one day each week of the school year. This year Wednesdays will be our volunteer day.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for the Breakfast Program please see myself Linda Gibson, Connie Kryschuk, Marlene McNabb or Dianne Tucker.

For those who financially support this program please use your offering envelope under the "Other" category.

Thank you,
Linda Gibson

A big thank you to our men at the Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank who cleaned the carpets at our church ~ Jim Jost, Jim Ross, Jack Turk, Ron Metcalfe and George Stevens



A Note of Thanks

Over the summer many people who are part of our cluster, Caring For Our Faith Community, continued with responsibilities in the community. As the Elders in this cluster, we would like to say thank you to you- those we are aware of and to those who so often go unnoticed.

So a huge thank you to-----

- all the grass cutters, tree pruners, flower bed care givers.
- to all those who so willingly helped at Memorial Services.
- all who made visits or called a friend.
- the Tuesday morning Study Group who picked and preserved strawberries for the Mother's Day Tea.
- the people who retrieved and followed up on the office telephone messages,
- all those who checked the building and made the necessary repairs.
- all who we missed knowing about.

We appreciate and say **THANK YOU** to all the willing workers in other clusters that carried on during the summer. It's good to be back. So, our appreciation continues.

Eileen Metcalfe, Jim Ross, Muriel Kenyon

"JUST" CHRISTMAS

NOVEMBER 6TH, 1:30 -4 pm

The 9th Annual "Just" Christmas event will be held at Immanuel. It was initially to be held at Transcona U.C. but the possibility of their renovation not being complete, gave us at Immanuel the opportunity to be the hosts.

If this event is new to you, it provides an opportunity for people to experience an alternative to Commercial Christmas shopping. About 18 Non-profit Venders bring a wide variety of gift items to sale to support local and global projects. So we, the planning committee from the five United Churches in the northeast corner of Winnipeg invite you come to:

- . celebrate Christmas differently and support worthwhile projects.
- .enjoy a beverage and visit with the venders and other customers.
- . see the mostly hand-made, beautiful gifts.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON NOV.6TH!

PLEASE PASS THIS INVITATION ON TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact, Muriel Kenyon or Cindy Smyth.

BANNERS...

We are so happy to see the banners in our Worship space. Please feel free to get as close to the banners as you like, but it is appreciated that they are not touched. Thank you.



Finance Report

After posting a deficit of over \$19,000 for our fiscal year ending April 30, 2016, mainly due to an almost \$10,000 drop in our envelope givings to our Local operations, and after predicting an operating deficit of over \$25,000 for our fiscal year ending April 30, 2017; your Finance Team wants to keep the congregation aware of where we are standing financially. Here are some of the numbers as of the end of August.

	Total Income	Total Expenses	Deficit
August 2015	\$28,590.61	\$33,933.81	\$5,343.20
August 2016	\$30,957.57	\$33,661.79	\$2,704.22

As you can see, our income is over \$2000 higher than the same time last year while our expenses are almost \$300 lower than last year. This increased income is due an almost \$3000 increase in Local givings compared to the same time last year. Many thanks to everyone who kept up their offerings over the summer months. So, while we still are operating with a deficit, it is over \$2500 less than last year at this time.

Our givings to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church are \$6721.56 from May to August 31, 2016 which is about \$50.00 less than the same time last year. These givings are used by the United Church to support work nationally and around the world.

Our Red River Co-Op number is 193228. This can be used at any Red River Co-Op gas bar or food store. The yearly rebate from the Red River Co-Op forms part of our operational income. We are grateful to everyone who uses this method to help increase our income. Please don't hesitate to give this number to your children or grandchildren or friends or neighbours to use when they are shopping - you don't need to be an Immanuel member to use our number.

If you have any questions regarding our finances or your givings, please don't hesitate to contact a member of your Finance Team: Pat Schulz, Connie Kryschuk or Debbie Bilous.

Yours in Faith
Pat Schulz

2017 Offering Envelopes

The finance team, Pat Schulz, Debbie Bilous and myself, Connie Kryschuk, record all the income and pay all the bills and provide an accounting of these activities. When we see an opportunity to save the church a few dollars, such as distributing newsletters and tax receipts rather than mailing them, we do so. This year, we have found a way to save a few more dollars with the offering envelopes.

The offering envelope numbers range from 1 to 225. In the past, we have ordered 225 boxes to ensure that everyone received their numbered envelopes. You're probably thinking that we don't have 225 families currently supporting the church and you would be correct. When we reached a point where we were distributing less than half of the 225, we started to order blank envelopes and hand printed the numbers on them.

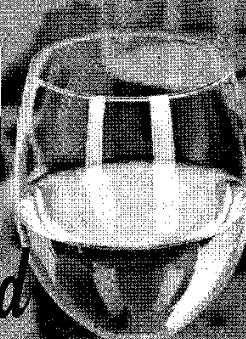
We always ordered extra boxes (just in case) and now we find ourselves with a surplus of boxes that are taking up a lot of space. We don't want to waste them, so we have re-dated and numbered them for the 2017 year. They are not as fancy as the numbered ones, but we hope you will find them serviceable (and with a minimum amount of errors.)

We will be ordering new boxes for 2018 and will be hand numbering them as before.
Respectfully submitted Connie Kryschuk

Community Ministry
St. Matthews Maryland



*Loving our
West End Neighbours*



Join us for a Very Special Evening of
Wines Paired with Gourmet Food

in support of St. Matthews Maryland Community Ministry

Wednesday October 26th, 2016
7pm to 9pm

Riverwood Square Retirement Living
1778 Pembina Hwy

A stunning event at a beautiful venue, creative food menu with tastefully chosen wines and excellent local entertainment. A fundraising effort for community and a wonderful evening to share with friends. *Tours of Riverwood Square Retirement will also be available.*

\$25
per ticket

SAMPLE MENU

Pinot Grigio
Paired with
Creole Shrimp
Skewers

Chardonnay
Paired with
Crab Cakes &
Horseradish Cream

Pinot Noir
Paired with
Mushroom
Bruschetta

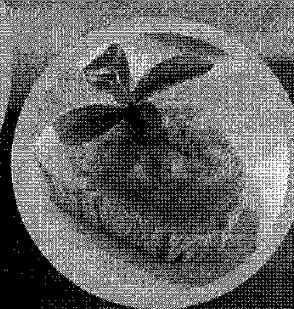
Shiraz
Paired with Smoky
BBQ Chicken
Drumettes

Ice Wine
Paired with
Mango Banana
Sorbet

*Non-alcoholic
beverages and
vegetarian options
provided*



Decadent Dessert Table



Ticket Price \$25.00. All proceeds supporting St. Matthews Community Ministry. Charitable receipts will be issued. Available online at StMatthewsMaryland.ca or through the SMMCM office, 204.774.3957, 365 McGee Ave.

St. Matthews Maryland gives love to the most vulnerable people in our city everyday: good food to eat, a safe place to be, a non judging welcome. Made possible with your support.

Parking is located off Adamar Road, South entrance door at Riverwood Square, 1778 Pembina Hwy.

Staff

Nancy Sanders, Minister

Sharon Vandenberg, Office Administrator

Jim Goldrup, Caretaker

Eileen Metcalfe, Choir Director

Peter Fyne, Organist

J. Douglas McMurtry, Minister Emeritus

William Hickerson, Minister Emeritus



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