

# The Voice

JUNE  
2009



"No matter who you are,  
or where you are  
on life's journey,  
you'll find a home here."

## CONTENTS:

Message from our Associate Minister	1
Statement of Purpose	2
Flower Sponsors	3
Membership	3
Fellowship	4
Diaconate	5
Immanuel Church Women	6
Spiritual Wellness	6
Ministry with Children	7
Social Action & Mission	8
From the Office	8
Property	9

*Sharing the  
Good News!*

## *A Message from our Associate Minister*

Dear Friends and Members of Immanuel Church:

You've probably heard it said that when life hands you lemons, make lemonade. But if you are picturing two eight-year-olds with a quart of Minute Maid at a 10¢ stand, you've got the wrong idea. Imagine instead a hot August day at the Deep River Muster. The sun beats down as the fife and drum corps march by in their period uniforms with regimental coats; people along the parade route grow faint. A sidewalk vendor squeezes fresh lemons into a blender of crushed ice. Now that's lemonade!

That's the type of entrepreneurship we are called upon to envision as Christians in a down economy. Not just to make do with less; but to make more with it. Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians. *I have learned to be content with whatever I have... I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, or having plenty and of being in need.* (Phil 4: 11b-12) Remember, Paul is writing from prison.

When we have money, we generally spend it without much attention to the time that it costs. Our thinking goes something like this, 'what's the *most* I can do with my vacation allowance?' If there is a blessing to be found in having less money, it is the opportunity to reconsider how we spend time. We can ask instead, 'what's the *best* I can do with my vacation time?' How can I *invest* it? What if, instead of finding a place to entertain your family, you find a place to listen to them? Instead of looking for the best deal at a restaurant, you find the best value in cooking together at home?

Not much affected by the new economy? This is a time to experience generosity. Give away your vacation or barter it with someone out of work. Lost your job or earning less? There is unexpected blessing in the humility of receiving when we practice gratitude. Lemons or lemonade? Choose lemonade!

Yours in Christ,

Nancy

## IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*United Church of Christ  
A Just Peace, Open and  
Affirming Congregation*

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 AM

CHURCH SCHOOL

10:00 AM

*(Worship at 9:30AM during July  
and August)*

*Childcare available*

*Fully accessible*

*Parking available*

Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday, 9:00 - 4:00PM

Phone:  
860-527-8121

Fax:  
860-293-1404

email:  
immanuel@iccucc.org



## OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"This church shall have for its purpose the public worship of God through Christ, the preaching and teaching of the Christian Gospel and the cultivation of Christ-like character. Its purpose shall also be to promote fellowship and unity, alleviate poverty and suffering, increase knowledge, extend justice and in all other possible ways to advance the kingdom of God, both locally and throughout the world."

— from the By-Laws of Immanuel Congregational Church, Incorporated February 1, 1964

In recent years the congregation of Immanuel Church has voted to extend its mission in three important ways:

- As a **Just Peace Church** we seek to encourage reconciliation, forgiveness and peacemaking as core virtues in a world that prizes violence and aggression.
- As an **Open and Affirming** Congregation we seek to offer a particular welcome to gay, lesbian, transgendered and bisexual people: many of whom have felt exclusion from the life of the church as a result of their sexual orientation.
- And we have accepted with joy the experience of becoming a multicultural, multiracial community where God's new reign is glimpsed through the coming together of people from different backgrounds, races and abilities.

As a recent visitor commented when leaving our sanctuary after worship: "You don't just talk about diversity — you live it!"

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## SUNDAY FLOWER SPONSORS

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If you have an important event you would like to commemorate or a special person you would like to honor, a lovely way to do so is to sponsor the flowers that grace the organ on Sunday mornings. After the service, the beautiful flowers are made into three smaller arrangements that are delivered to members and friends of the church who are ill, celebrating a birthday or anniversary, or in memory of a loved one.

If you would like to reserve a date to be a flower sponsor, please sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact Joanna Gerber (236-5490) joannagerber@att.net or Judith Gilligan (563-3072). The cost of the arrangement is \$50. Following is a list of the dates that are available: July 12, 29 and August 9.

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## MEMBERSHIP

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### MEMBERSHIP GOALS

One of our goals, as we started as a new committee in February '09, was to seek out opportunities for Immanuel to have more visibility in the outside community. We already do this through limited advertising and through our incredible website. But we also wanted to find some low cost events where we can be actually have a presence. We have been looking for events where we can have literature about Immanuel available and have some Immanuel members to talk with if people at the event are interested or have questions. One event we have decided to attend and have a booth at is Gay Pride on June 6, 2009. It will take place at Bushnell Park. The Membership Committee has not done something like this in several years and would like to gauge the interest and response of those attending. It is just another way of being "Outward Bound" as we try to reach out, beyond our current membership, to people we think would find a warm welcome at Immanuel.

### CARILLON CONCERTS AT TRINITY A MEMBERSHIP INVITATION TO ALL FROM JOHN SCULLY

As I mentioned in last month's Voice, the Membership Committee continues to look for low cost or no cost events as a way for people in the congregation to gather together. The purpose is to get to know one another better and to just have fun.

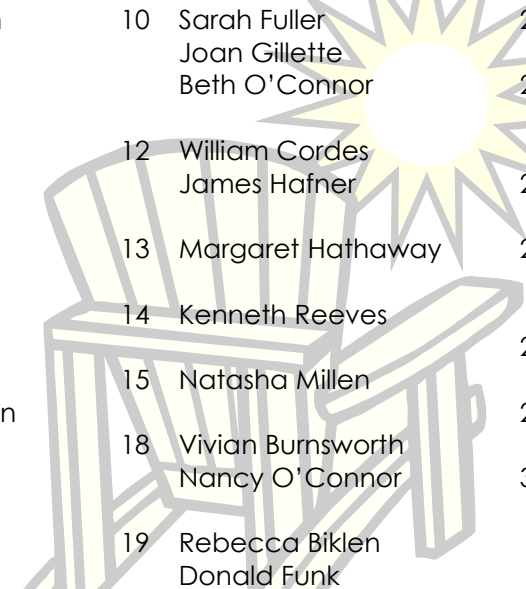
As I talked about last month, starting Wednesday, June 17th, Trinity College will begin its 35th year of their annual Carillon Concerts. They will run every Wednesday through

August 12th. For those who can make a 6pm start, there is always a Chamber Music Series in the Trinity College Chapel. At 7pm the Carillon Concerts begin on the Quad in the center of Trinity's campus. David and I will be going (weather permitting) to many of the concerts and certainly the first one. We invite any and all who would be interested to join us. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, a picnic dinner for you or your family... come alone or in groups. It's a very informal and relaxed atmosphere. Children can run around and visiting is allowed, with the Carillon music as a backdrop. We will meet informally each week on the Quad, in the area closest to the chapel, and seek each other out.

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## FELLOWSHIP JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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1 Elizabeth Johnson	10 Sarah Fuller Joan Gillette	21 Justin Joiner
2 Kyle Eckerson Sarah McKay Alma Nielsen Ruth Shepherd	Beth O'Connor	22 Joseph Jackson Neil Montlick
5 Carole Carlson	12 William Cordes James Hafner	23 James Walker
6 Miranda Carlone	13 Margaret Hathaway	25 Emily Martin Lawrence Paterno
7 Cynthia Harvey Martha Londergan	14 Kenneth Reeves	26 Peggy MacQuown
8 Joseph Bond Ellen Fuller	15 Natasha Millen	27 Catherine Spain
9 Ann McMillan	18 Vivian Burnsworth Nancy O'Connor	30 Elizabeth Allen Nancy Allen Theodore Donahue David Schultz
	19 Rebecca Biklen Donald Funk	

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## DIACONATE

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The deacons have been asked to write about someone who is involved in work which is inspiring to us in some way. Having recently returned from the Immanuel mission trip to Oaxaca Mexico, I knew immediately that I would write about Bryan Nurnberger who, at the age of 31, frankly "blew me away" with what he has accomplished and what he continues to do.

It was an unlikely turn of events that lead Bryan in his early 20's to Casa Hogar, the small orphanage which at the time was in desperate need of help in just about every possible way. When he told me that story (which there is not room for here) it jumped out at me as a true example of God at work. It's not every young man or woman, or person of any age who would look at the terrible conditions at a place like that and decide to make it his or her life's work. Bryan became and continues to be the force behind Simply Smiles which he started in order to raise money and do the organizational and shear physical work that it has taken to transform Casa Hogar into a magnificent oasis of love and care and family for the impoverished children of the Oaxaca region. Our time living for a week there was a time of true joy and love. The children are happy and healthy, well fed, clean, beautifully dressed, well organized, loving and responsible. They go to school. They get help with their homework. They have a beautiful computer lab. And the children adore Bryan. They follow him everywhere, giggling and climbing on him. And clearly he loves them with all his heart as he works so hard for them.

Then there is the dump community for whom Bryan has organized the building projects, with which we were involved, to provide decent housing for these proud, hardworking desperately poor families. When Bryan bumps up the road in his school bus loaded with the latest group of volunteers, people all through the community come out and grin and wave. They love Bryan for all the ways that he has worked to help improve their lives. You can see the looks of deep respect and appreciation and joy on the their faces.

Bryan is not stopping here. The wheels of his mind are constantly turning, thinking of how to expand the projects of Simply Smiles in new ways and in new areas. There will always be plenty of work for him and all of his volunteers. At the age of 31, Bryan Nurnberger has already accomplished more than many of us will in a lifetime. And he has a long way to go. We have a lot that we can learn from Bryan, and also from the children and staff at Casa Hogar and the families at the dump. And there is a lot that we can continue to do to help.

Joan Cooney

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## IMMANUEL CHURCH WOMEN

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### A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

ICW says thank you, thank you, thank you! -- to all those who contributed 180 2009 calendars to the residents of the Avery Health Care Center, to all those who contributed 90 (to date) gift bags to the expected trip of Santa to Avery in 2009, and to all those who contributed \$350 to purchase 70 blankets for the Church World Service to distribute among the neediest .

### LOST, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN...

Several months ago, in the process of transferring our picture book supplies from one safe place to another, our supplies disappeared. The loss of the source of pictures (outdated calendars, pictures cut from magazines, etc.) was not a severe blow – they can be rather easily replaced – but we do need the magnetic photo albums. Have you seen them anywhere around the church? If so, please tell Joe Joiner.

### ANNUAL TAG SALE

Back by popular demand and thanks to Joe Joiner, ICW will again sponsor a Tag Sale on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. Spring cleaning is a good time to sort through good, used household items, furniture, toys, sports equipment, jewelry, etc. (No clothes, please!!) See Joe if you need storage before the sale.



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## SPIRITUAL WELLNESS

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### YOGA FOR EVERY BODY!

Wednesdays at 2:00pm in Immanuel's chapel. Cost is \$2. Just show up with a towel or mat. For questions, please contact Dorothy Lovett Buckley at 860-523-9291 or [delliottlovett@yahoo.com](mailto:delliottlovett@yahoo.com), or after worship on Sunday.

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## MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN

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### CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY

JUNE 14TH

Families with children, please plan to attend worship on Sunday, June 14, for Church School Sunday. Each class takes part in the worship service and teachers are honored for their service and dedication to the faith formation of our children. Please note that the date is JUNE 14th – not June 21st as originally stated in the CE handbook for Teachers and Parents.

### CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

The CE Board is seeking new teachers for the Fall 2009 Semester and Winter/Spring Semester 2010. Each class has two co-teachers. The curriculum utilizes Bible stories with lessons plans and related activities for each lesson. There are 30 minutes of class time for each lesson and activity.

There is no Church School on the first Sunday of each month, when children participate in the IMMArts Music Program. Nearly every month there is also another Sunday when Creative Classroom Teachers plan the lesson and only one regular teacher stays with the class.

You may also choose to teach for just one of the two semesters. Please join us! Contact Nancy Allen at Immanuel, Lu St. Germain at [Robert\\_st\\_germain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Robert_st_germain@sbcglobal.net) (Note: an \_ after Robert and st) or Pat Allen at [phallen@cox.net](mailto:phallen@cox.net).

### STILL NEED NURSERY ITEMS

We would like to update our Nursery toys. We need gently used colorful board books, activity toys and an exer-saucer. Please respond to Nancy, Lu or Pat at the above listed emails.

### SILVER LAKE SUMMER CONFERENCE

Ready, set, fun!! Brochures are in for Silver Lake, the Summer Conference (children's summer camp) of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ in beautiful Sharon, Connecticut. The conference begins with a pre-camp service week for 9th to 12th graders June 21-27. The Conference continues for seven more weeks through August 15th with sessions for children entering 4th to 12th grade. Please see the 2009 Summer Calendar posted on the Children's bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall or request a calendar from Nancy Allen. Online registration is available at <http://silverlake.ctucc.org>. Scholarships are available from the Immanuel Church Women on a limited basis.

### SUMMER WORSHIP CHILDCARE

Although there is no Church School during the summer, childcare is provided in the nursery and toddler room for children from infants to pre-kindergarten so that families with children can continue to worship at Immanuel.

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## SOCIAL ACTION AND MISSION

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### LATINO COMMUNITY SERVICES' 4TH ANNUAL AIDS WALK JUNE 14TH

The AIDS Walk will be at the West Hartford Reservoir on June 14th from 1pm to 4pm. The Youth Group will be walking for its third year in a row and is looking for other ICC members to join them as walkers and/or to sponsor the Youth Group team. Pets and strollers are welcome – there will also be face painting and balloon animal-making. Come enjoy an afternoon at the reservoir and support a good cause! Any questions, see Erica Roggeveen Byrne, or contact her at (860) 628-0981 or [Erica.roggeveen.byrne@gmail.com](mailto:Erica.roggeveen.byrne@gmail.com)

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you knit? Do you crochet? Are you aware of the Prayer Shawl ministry? We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 1:30PM at Immanuel to make shawls and scarves for those in the hospital, shut-in at home, or deserving of recognition from the church in some other way. The next meetings of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be June 10<sup>th</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, if you need instructions, yarn or needles, please call Barbara Hulburt (860-282-2811) or Beth Cooper (860-521-5136).

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR NOAH WEBSTER SCHOOL

Noah Webster Magnet School in Hartford needs musical instruments for the school's band and orchestra program. If you have a used musical instrument in working condition that you wish to donate to the school, please contact Kathy Peet, Music Director at Noah Webster Magnet School at 695-5404. The instruments will get plenty of loving use. Thanks. – Annelieke Schauer

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## FROM THE OFFICE

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### VOICE DEADLINE

The deadline for the June Voice is **Wednesday, June 10th**,

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**PROPERTY**

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**PROPERTY COMMITTEE GOES GREEN**

(But not with envy)

The Property Committee is pleased to report that maintenance and renovation projects at Immanuel Congregational Church are planned with a view to reducing or minimizing Immanuel's 'carbon footprint'. Recent examples include:

Modernized direct digital controls on Immanuel's heating system to reduce heat waste and provide greater comfort.

Replaced Immanuel's interior light bulbs and ceiling fixtures with energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs and new style more efficient tubes and ballasts. The cost was paid partly by a grant from CL&P.

Low emission paints and varnishes are being used at Immanuel for any new projects. Immanuel's lawn care company directed to use more environmentally friendly products to

comply with Uconn Extension Service's guidelines. They are now doing that.

Restoration of the South sanctuary window reduced the amount of outside air infiltration.

Insulation of the boiler and steam condensate tank to conserve energy.

Variable speed ambient controlled circulating pumps installed on the heating system at 360 Farmington Avenue resulting in more efficient energy use.

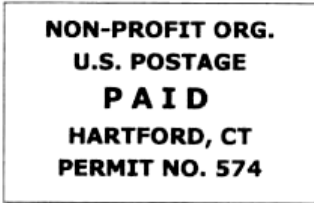
Moreover the committee is planning further repairs and upgrades to the heating system, which will make it more energy efficient. The committee is also considering the installation of a solar domestic hot water system separate from the higher temperature water required for the kitchens.

The committee has also engaged expert consultants on the subjects of installing geothermal heating and changing to compact fluorescent bulbs in the sanctuary. It appears that neither of those projects would be cost effective at this time, but will be revisited when conditions warrant.

As it plans renovation projects to be supported by the Capital Campaign, the Property Committee is keeping in mind ways to reduce Immanuel's carbon footprint. If you have any questions or suggestions for the committee, please contact Don Gillette at [gillette\\_donald\\_r@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gillette_donald_r@sbcglobal.net) or 233-5488.

IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
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860-527-8121      [WWW.ICCUCC.ORG](http://WWW.ICCUCC.ORG)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Ministers**

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Director of Music  
Associate Director of Music  
Organist  
Choral Librarian  
IMM\*Arts I  
IMM\*Arts II  
Pre- K IMM\*Arts  
Youth Group  
Friendly Visitor Coordinator  
Radio Ministry  
Website Designer  
Church Administrator  
Church Secretaries

Sexton

**All Members of the Church**

The Rev. Dr. Edward Horstmann  
The Rev. Nancy Allen  
Mark Singleton  
Ehren Brown  
Donald Funk  
Jennifer Lamson  
Jennifer Lamson  
Jeffrey Vanags  
Ali Lurie  
Sarah Kline Morgan  
Elizabeth Allen  
Robert Hafner, Jr.  
Marilyn Holt  
Wayne Lampkin  
Marilyn Holt  
Donald Funk  
Joe Joiner

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