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To Know God and to make Him known through fellowship, prayer, and service.

Welcome

December 2025



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Luke 2:10-11 recounts an angel's message to shepherds, saying, **"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord"**. This scripture announces the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem as the promised Savior and Messiah, a message of hope and great joy for all humanity.

Special Events: *There will be a "Night of Joy" December 14th 5:30 pm
A special musical presentation by The Prodigals
and a Christmas Sing-a-long
Refreshments following
Come celebrate the Joy of Christmas*

Christmas Eve Candlelight-service December 24 @ 5:30

*Pick up your advent devotional booklet at church. "25 days Why the nativity?"

Secret Santa. There are name tags on the tree. Please take one, get a gift and put it on or under the tree with the person's name tag.

Weekly:

Bible study Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM (Library)

Friday Mornings - Prayer Hour Friday mornings at 8 am (Sanctuary)

Bible Study Friday mornings at 9:30 am

Men's 260 Accountability group Wednesday's 5:00

The Chosen Series Friday at 6:30 pm

Monthly:

1st Sunday of each month we serve communion and is our Friendship Sunday potlucks. Join us and bring a friend.

2nd Saturday - Men's breakfast December 13 9:30 – 11.

2nd Sunday – Mission Moment – information about one of our mission projects is shared during the service.

2nd Tuesday - 11:30 AM ICC Women's Group (Fellowship Hall) Annual Christmas Potluck and Yankee Swap December 9th. Bring a Friend!

Welcome – our new members. Gayle and Stephen Fulk, Michael Pandolph, and Wayne Sargent.

Reminders:

6:03 Pray for ONE (2Peter 3:9)

Continued prayers for our shut-ins, those who are ill, had recent surgery, grieving, dealing with difficult challenges. For our church, our country, our world. Take note of our weekly "Prayer Requests" and keep those requests in mind.

Let's continue to read the Bible together in one year. [_https://bible.alpha.org/en/](https://bible.alpha.org/en/)

Our Daily Bread devotional booklets are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Gifts given in memory of someone or in honor of someone still living, will be added to our Memorial Fund. The names of those honored by these gifts will be read aloud at our service on Remembrance Sunday, May 24, 2026

New project — Let's start a Meal Train to provide meals to our friends experiencing hard times such as illness , accident, new widow /widower.

The first step is to find volunteers who are available to help. If this is something you

can do please sign up on your communication card or contact Belle Ash at church. Her email address is: bello205@gmail.com or phone number 603-731-4132

A message:

God Put You Here and You Are Good Enough

In our lifetime we receive a lot of messages; both positive and negative from many people including family, school teachers, friends and many others. As children we don't make many choices, they are made for us. As we become teens and young adults, we start learning more about choices and consequences. Based on those messages and early simple choices, we make many decisions. What to eat, what to wear, what job to apply for, whether to sign a mortgage, what car to buy, and so on.

I made many choices in my 70 plus years. Some were good and I thought were making me happy and others were not good and I had some difficult times, but I always knew God had my back and I was as good as anyone else.

We all have value, each one of us is unique and special and God made each one of us to be here, in this time, and put us in this place for a reason and don't let anyone tell you you're not good enough.

Missions - We have sent 68 gift boxes to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. We worked together to purchase or make practical and fun gifts for kids in other parts of the world, some of whom have never received a gift before. and all of whom will receive the message of God's love. Thanks for making Operation Christmas Child a blessing to all of us.

Steve Fulk will present the December Missions Moment on behalf of Christian Aftercare Ministries.

Friendly Kitchen needs sugar in December.

Have you noticed that there is a definite nip in the air? Winter is here!

From December 1 until December 21 we will be collecting hats, mittens & gloves and hand warmers for the guests at the Friendly Kitchen.

Look for the box in the Fellowship hall and thank you for helping to keep our Friendly Kitchen guests warm. Any questions- see Beth-Ann

The ICC Women's Group . Tuesday 12/9: Women's Group Annual Christmas Potluck and Yankee Swap 11:30 am Bring a Friend!

Testimonial

My faith journey began as a little child with my mom praying with me at bedtime “Now I lay me down to sleep ...” . How many of you are familiar with that prayer?

From then was going to the Catholic Church with my paternal grandmother. I was baptized made my first communion, confirmation all that was required of me as a catholic. Including the usual Saturday confessions. All is well until I met and fell in love with a Baptist. Back in the 50s that was frowned upon unless the non-Catholic converted to Catholicism. The priest told me that if I pursued that path I would be excommunicated from the church *and I was!* God had my heart, let me know that he loved me and would be with me no matter what church I attended.

My future husband felt the need for a church family. We worked and planned to live in Concord and I had family attending Immanuel Community Church. That is how God led us to Immanuel. We became members and were married here in 1956.

God gave us 62 happy years before taking him from me. I have two sons, eight precious grandchildren and five soon to be six great grandchildren who delight me when they call from their western homes.

While living in Gilmanton I attended the Gilmanton Church -made some dear friends. One had a wonderful little quote when anything went wrong or she felt sad. She'd say “help me sweet Jesus” . I think of her and of that plea often. And he does - all we have to do is ask him.

I feel his presence always but even more so during difficult times – the loss of my beloved parents, husband and daughter-in-law, health challenges. vision loss, mobility issues. The older I get the more I depend on Jesus walking me through each day.

May God bless everyone reading our newsletter.

Ruby Bartlett

We have allotted 5-minute testimonials after the offering for anyone who wants to share. If you are interested please see Terri Morgan or Pastor Bill so that we can assign you a date.

We would like to include your story here in our newsletter. When and how did Jesus come into your life? How is he working In your life now? (If you need help contact Ruby or Terri).

December Birthdays

Dee Dixon 8
Richard Dondero 14
Maxine Halsey 28

If you would like us to add your birthday to our list - please note the month and day on a communication card.

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NOTICES: 1) The **Suncook Valley Chorale** is a community chorus, practicing locally at Concord High School. We will be celebrating 25 years of "Singing for Joy" in the spring. Our upcoming concerts on Friday January 16th at 7 pm and Saturday January 17th at 2 pm are being held at Wesley Methodist Church on Clinton Street in Concord. The concert title is "Wild Songs" :selections all pertaining to animals, such as Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf, Bye, Bye Blackbird, and Octopus's Garden to name a few.

ICC has been a sponsor for many years and our church is listed as a sponsor in both January and May bulletins.

Nancy Lorenz is offering 2 free tickets, which can be mailed or left at the door on either concert days. Contact her at nslorenz52@gmail.com or 603 265 5560.

2) We received a message from Rich Araldi a former member of our music team –it is posted on our bulletin board. He ended the message with -

I hope you are preparing for a wonderful holiday season with much to be thankful for, and great anticipation of the celebrations moving into a great new year.

All the best to you and yours!

Rich Araldi -

www.RichAraldiMusic.com

<https://www.youtube.com/@RichAraldi> - www.Sammy16.com

Council Thank you to all who helped clean our church and with the painting in the basement.

Our Friendsgiving dinner together was special. Thank you to all who made it possible.

.Merry Christmas and God's blessings to you all!

Check our website: <https://www.immanuelcommchurch.org/>

Our services are being live streamed on YouTube at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings and the recordings are there for you to view at your convenience. You can read our bulletin ad newsletter as well as make prayer requests and donate online.

If you have Items for the January issue of our newsletter please get them to Ruby Bartlett
*(rcbart5242@gmail.com) by. **December28th***

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