Deacon Notes Immanuel Lutheran Tonawanda July 1, 2019

May the Lord's Blessings be with you.

Immanuel Needs To Make Disciples

If we are going to make disciples, we'll need to change our thinking. We have a couple of automatic responses when we are asked to help make disciples - "Not my job, that is for the pastor, or elders!" And, if you are like me you might bust out singing. "No time left for you, on my way to better things" by the Guess Who. What if the call for Immanuel to make disciples is not a suggestion from Pastors Rickus and Lindemann, but a call from Jesus himself? We need to sing, like we just did this past weekend; "Here I am Lord."

We can recite our mission statement "To love God, love people and spread his word. Then we miss the mark, trying to teach Biblical facts or being stewards of the building and grounds, or asking the question, 'How can we get more people to come to church?" Those things don't make disciples. Read the Gospels, Jesus taught the people he called. Look at Acts in your Bible people were taught the gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and now alive.

We need to share what God has done for us and what he has done for your friends and neighbors. He calls us and them, to follow him, to give up what we have and share it with others, to give up what we want and start doing what God wants. He wants us to be active participants, faith without works is dead.

I ask everyone to pray for Immanuel, to study what it means to be a disciple and to consider how you can help Immanuel make disciples. Now is the time for you to listen for the call of Jesus. If you have eyes to see and ears to hear. you will know he has a role for you at Immanuel.

Adult Baptism

There are a number of adults out there, who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior, but have never been baptized. If you are one of them and would like to be baptized give me a call at 566-0429 or talk to Pastor Lindemann. Matthew 28: "Make disciples of all, nations, baptizing them, in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

Holding Hands During the Lord's Prayer.

Some people are not comfortable holding hands during the Lord's Prayer. Others feel perfectly comfortable doing so. Please feel free to do either, without disrespecting those who do the opposite of what you do.

Call Committee

Next meeting is Thurs. July 11, 2019 at 7PM. The list includes 2 men from New York, 2 from Pennsylvania, & one each from California, Texas, Wisconsin & Massachusetts.

Roof Update - The rebuilding of the parish hall roof has begun.

Sunday Worship - Beginning July 7, 2019, Sunday Worship will be at 10:30 A.M.

In mission with you,
Jeff