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June 17, 2018

Summer Cinema



Our summer film series begins at 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 24. After viewing a classic film we will discuss the message of the film. We will look for Christian values and questions that the church should address. Our first film will be “Friendly Persuasion.” The story is that of a Quaker family struggling with their faith during the Civil War. The movie features Gary Cooper and Dorothy McGuire.



Bible Study

Our study of Paul’s letter from prison to beloved friends in the church at Philippi continues. Come and join us Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am. The Philippian church was the first established in Europe. You can read about Paul’s first visit to this Roman city in Acts 16.

Simple Thoughts from an Ordinary Man

The church year is divided into six parts; Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time. The present period is that time between Pentecost and Advent called Ordinary Time. Most of us have been taught to avoid the ordinary as down time. A thoughtful review of Jesus’ life reveals that Thomas Merton was on target when he remarked that Jesus’ finest gift was to make the ordinary extraordinary.

Jesus was born in a stable of parents who were simple people who in our time might be called “blue collar.” He was reared simply to follow in his dad’s vocation as a craftsman. Jesus had no theological education but was taught the scriptures by Joseph and learned about people through observation. When he began his ministry he surrounded himself with ordinary people. There were no wealthy merchants, no ruling class, no scholars in the band of men who were called “apostles.”

He walked about the country among ordinary people, farmers, tax collectors, fisher folk. He encountered prostitutes, disabled, and other outcasts. Rather than delivering learned lectures or moral discourses he addressed the needs of ordinary people. He did not speak from the Temple on the important public forums but in fields, simple houses and synagogues. He touched the lives of good working people, old people with the typical ills of aging, the blind, lame and parents of suffering children. He reached out to heal, to offer words of encouragement, to feed the hungry and to cry out against injustice and neglect perpetrated by the rich and powerful. He performed ordinary services which many of us can perform today.

In this ordinary season we can, as Mother Teresa advised, "Do ordinary things with extraordinary love." She said that we could all do "small things with great love" and when we have nothing else to give, speak kind words.

Thomas Merton wrote that "it is in the ordinary duties and labors of life that the Christian can and should develop his (her) spiritual union with God." Jesus spoke a great deal about neighbors and family. We can do kingdom work with kindness to our family and neighbors. We do not have to go to exotic foreign lands or big cities to be on mission for God. I have witnessed in the ordinary ebb and flow of our Immanuel community acts of kindness and words of encouragement. Jesus is with you when you prepare a meal for a home where there is illness or for those suffering the loss of a loved one. Simply being present in a time of stress or loneliness is an act of grace. To tutor a child who is behind in school or has difficulty in learning certain subjects can invoke God's loving presence. A timely phone call may lift the heart of a lonely or depressed person. A visit to a hospital or a jail merits recognition as an ordinary act that may have an extraordinary result. Seize the opportunity to teach a children's Sunday school class or sponsor a youth or children's activity. One of the early fathers of the church said that all Christians should proclaim the good news of Christ using words when necessary. Acts of love speak more clearly than eloquent sermons.

"Our Town" remains my favorite American play. I read it over and over again because of the way it reveals the beauty of "ordinary time." My favorite scene is when Emily is allowed to revisit life. She is moved by the poignant sights and sounds of every day relationships and acts of love; her mother cooking breakfast, the smell of frying bacon, the feel of freshly ironed dresses, the voices of her mother, father and brother. Overwhelmed by the beauty of the ordinary she cries out, "Oh earth, you're too wonderful for anybody to realize you.... Does anyone ever realize life while they live it?" The playwright has captured the meaning of "ordinary time." All time is God's time filled with the potential for a joyful life of love. Ordinary time is an opportunity to act out the effects of Advent, Christmas and Easter. Indeed, it may be the holiest of seasons. **Dr. Bailey**



Coming Up!

The adult choir is beginning to work on a music program to be performed late summer or early fall that includes hymns, gospel numbers, and some old favorites with perhaps a new twist that we hope will be both inspirational and uplifting. Stay tuned for more on this as it develops throughout the next few weeks. If you sing and would like something to do from 6-7 on Wednesdays, please come and join our sanctuary choir as we work on this music and as we prepare to lead in music worship each week. You are definitely missed if you aren't there! **Thanks, Mac**

Deacon of the Week Schedule:

June 17 Mike Hatcher 223-3676

June 24 Kay Osborne 875-2194

July 1 Meredith Shouse 320-6740

XYZ Potluck Luncheon

July 3



Our monthly potluck luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 3 at noon** in Fellowship Hall. Everyone age 55 years of age and older is invited to attend. Please bring a covered dish to share. Scott Tippet will share some political concerns and civic responsibilities for our area. Scott is a member of Immanuel, retired teacher and a city commissioner. His wife Becky and son Andrew are deacons here at Immanuel.



Bus Ministry

June 17 Greg Lawson
502-487-1091
June 24 Bruce Dungan
502-320-1687
July 1 JT O'Connell
502-545-3016

Crafting Weekend June 22-23



Doors will open Friday, June 22 at 6:00pm and Saturday morning June 23rd at 9:00 am. Bring your craft of choice and enjoy some fun creative time. Bring a snack to share. Please let Sandy Altom (sfaltom@aol.com) know if you plan to come so that we'll have space for you.

Opportunities at IBC

Sunday, June 17

9:15 am The Gathering (Koinonia)
followed by Bible Study

10:30 am Worship

Monday, June 18

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, June 20

10:00 am Scripture Study

6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Friday, June 22

6:00 pm Scrapbooking

Saturday, June 23

9:00 am Scrapbooking

Sunday, June 24

9:15 am Bible Study

10:30 am Worship

Monday, June 25

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, June 27

10:00 am Scripture Study

6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Stewardship Report

2018 Ministry Plan	\$407,261.00
Amount Needed Each Week	\$7,832.00
Amount Needed thru	\$172,304.00
Undesignated Receipts	\$165,295.52