



# THE PLOWSHARE

The newsletter of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Compton, Illinois

January 2018

## ANNUAL MEETING

It is important that every voting member, young and old, long-time and brand new-attend the Annual Meeting of our congregation on January 28, 2018. At this meeting we will conduct the business of our congregation and renew our commitment to the ministry to which God had called us.

A voting member is a confirmed member who in the current or preceding calendar year has taken communion AND made a financial contribution "of record" at least once.

Worship will be at 8:30 a.m. with the Annual Meeting at 9:45 a.m. Please note that there will be no Sunday School on this day.

Please, the presence of each voting member at this meeting every year is crucial to the health and life of our congregation. We hope to see all of you there.

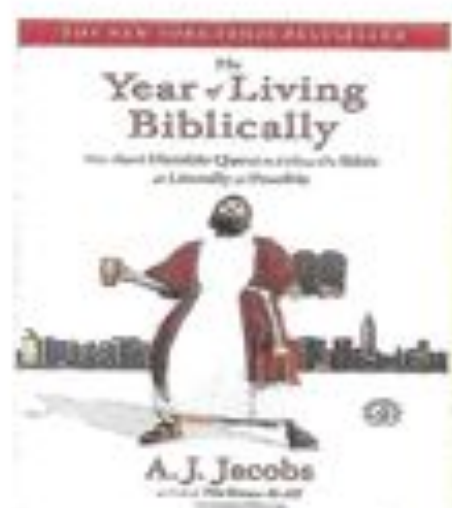
The Annual Report will be available at the church around January 21 for you to pick up, they will not be mailed out.

Please look over this report and bring it with you to the meeting.

ANNUAL REPORTS from committees and organizations should be turned in to the church office as soon as possible.

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4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Readers will meet Sunday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m. at the parsonage. The book we will be reading & discussing is "The Year of Living Biblically" by A.J. Jacobs, One Man's Humble Quest to follow the Bible as literally as possible. Order your copy of this book on the sign up sheet in the overflow today!!



GENERAL TREASURY FOR NOVEMBER 2017

RECEIPTS FOR NOVEMBER	\$21,312.99
EXPENDITURES FOR NOVEMBER	\$17,992.26
NET/(LOSS)	\$ 3,320.73

RECEIPTS YTD	\$162,816.56
EXPENDITURES YTD	\$177,930.67
NET/(LOSS)	(\$15,114.11)

TO MEET OUR BUDGET FOR 2017 OUR GOAL IS \$3327.00 A WEEK. WE HAD 4 WEEKLY OFFERINGS OF \$4721.00 THIS MONTH.

LETS KEEP UP THE GOOD WORKS HERE AT IMMANUEL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Avg. Sunday Worship Attendance - Nov. 91

Harlan G. Eames  
Financial Officer

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CHECK OUT IMMANUEL'S WEBSITE  
FOR MORE CURRENT NEWS & PHOTOS  
(click on photo album & then click on a picture)  
[www.immanuelutherancompton.org](http://www.immanuelutherancompton.org)

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FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY is held on Friday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Come as you are and bring a friend.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  
JANUARY 15!

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ANNUAL REPORTS from committees and organizations should be turned in to the church office as soon as possible.

BENEVOLENCE OFFERING

*Local Outreach*

*Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry*

Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry provides emergency, supplemental food supply for the people of the community. Service area covers: Earlville, LaMoille, Mendota, Meriden, Sublette, Troy Grove & Triumph. They are located at 918 Main St. Suite #1, Mendota.

Please use the enclosed envelope.

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Night On The Town

for January (to be announced)

Call the church office if you would like to host it!

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Night On The Town 2018 sign up sheet is on the table in the overflow. Please sign up if you would like to be a host.

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Winter weather is here. Please listen to one of the following radio stations for the cancellation of church services or check Facebook.

WGLC - 100.1 FM (Mendota)

WAJK - 99.3 (LaSalle)

WRJL - 102.3 (Rochelle)

Please tell Pastor Jeff if you would like to receive a text alert.

If services are not cancelled, please use your own judgment and drive carefully.



## Jeff's Jottings – "Beginnings"

As you read this, the new year has either begun or is just days away. That means we have to begin to write 2018 when we date things rather than 2017 (I'll probably get that figured out by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July). For many of us we will begin a new resolution that will help improve our life and/or the life of the world. For me, I begin the countdown until Cubs opening day (it's on the 88<sup>th</sup> day of the year by the way).

The beginning of things is important. I was thinking of that as Theresa and I hauled our children to family gatherings for Christmas. What is it that draws us back to these family gatherings? After all, we have our own families now, why is it so important to keep my children in touch with my parents and siblings? It's because beginnings are important. It is with my parents and siblings that my journey through life began. They had a profound influence on who I am. And if my children wish to fully understand themselves, whose beginnings were formed by me and Theresa, they must understand our beginnings as well.

The beginning of things is important. That is why this year, in worship, we are going to start at the beginning. The very first book of our Bible is entitled Genesis. The word Genesis, of course, means beginning. As we begin a new year, we will be looking at the foundational stories of our faith. We will be considering our beginnings.



I'm excited to announce that the first series in our "Year of the Bible" at Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish will be on the book of Genesis. Beginning January 14<sup>th</sup> and continuing through the Epiphany season there will be a sermon series on Genesis:

- January 14, 2018 - "The Four Tragedies that Brought Faith"
- January 21, 2018 - "The Father of Faith"
- January 28, 2018 - "The Daughter-in-Law of Faith"
- February 4, 2018 - "The Faithful Conman"
- February 11, 2018 - "Dreams Come True"

The culmination of this series on Genesis will be really exciting. On Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, we will have the privilege of hosting Reverend Catherine Malotky, author of the study on Genesis for Augsburg's *Books of Faith* Series. She will present a seminar entitled "Back to the Beginnings: A Journey through Genesis." This seminar will be open not only to everyone at First and Immanuel, but we will invite people from area congregations as well. Please mark it on your calendar. And then on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> she will be our guest preacher in worship and conclude our Genesis series.

I'm excited about the new year and what awaits us at the Heart of Illinois Lutheran Parish during 2018. I'm excited about beginning with the beginning as we venture into our "Year of the Bible." I'm excited to be leading you all into a new year. Let's go forth together in faith!

See you in worship on Sunday!

PS

## Adult Confirmation

Confirmation is a process to instruct people in the faith in order to help them grow in and sustain faith in Jesus. This is typically done during the junior high ages while young people's minds are developing and beginning to think more abstractly. But confirmation is also provided for adults who wish to join the congregation but have no background in being a Lutheran Christian.

Adults who have not been confirmed or those who wish to renew their affirmation of faith are invited to go through instruction with Pastor Jeff. The study *"by heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism"* (see below) which will be offered in January and February can serve as this instruction. Please let Pastor Jeff know via either email or text if you are interested in adult confirmation.

## January/February Adult Study: "by heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism"

An adult study of utilizing the new book compiled by Augsburg will be offered in January and February. This 8-8 week course will offer a good opportunity to dig into the foundations of what it is to be a Lutheran Christian. It will also serve as instruction for those seeking confirmation.

The specific time and dates for this will be set based on the availability of those signing up, with priority going to those seeking confirmation. Please sign up as soon as possible so that books can be ordered and dates can be set.



### Night On The Town

Saturday, January 13 - 6:00 p.m.

Long Branch in Amboy

Hosted by: Brad Ehlers & Sharon Kellen

Sign up in the overflow if you are able to join us!

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, COMPTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
November 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:27p by Council President, Randy Schlesinger. Council members in attendance were Diane Englehart, Bob Kromm, Jill Ross, Pastor Jeff Schlesinger, Randy Schlesinger, Charlene Zimmerman and Sarah Goetz. Scott Schlesinger was absent.

Scott Schlesinger asked via an email to have Endowment Transfer added to the agenda under New Business. A motion was made by Charlene Zimmerman and seconded by Bob Kromm to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

The October minutes were presented for approval. A request was made to add "there were" in the second sentence of the Pastor's report. There was also a request to make two changes in the Business Mileage/Leased Car section of Old Business. In the first bullet, "smaller" should be "next smallest", and in the third bullet "if we went" should be "if we go". A motion was made by Diane Englehart and seconded by Charlene Zimmerman to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- There were no membership changes in October.
- Pastor Jeff Schlesinger asked the Council to consider adding a monthly line item to the 2018 budget for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. This could be in place of our monthly benevolence for ELCA World Hunger. The NIS World Hunger Sub-Committee is requesting this consideration. There will be a resolution at the Synod Assembly and Pastor Jeff Schlesinger will be speaking on its behalf.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - No report

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Reports for General Treasury, AMDEX Account, Capital Improvement Fund, Memorial Fund, and Benevolence were presented.

- General Treasury ending balance on October 31, 2017 was \$10,698.75
- AMDEX Account ending balance on October 31, 2017 was \$33,709.42
- Capital Improvement Fund ending balance on October 31, 2017 was \$30,690.35
- Memorial Fund ending balance on October 31, 2017 was \$27,002.78
- Benevolence Account ending balance on October 31, 2017 was \$7,609.13

The memorial money received in honor of Elaine Zimmerman will go to the Capital Improvement Fund.

A motion was made by Sarah Goetz and seconded by Charlene Zimmerman to approve the financial reports. The motion carried.

TEAM REPORTS

- Building and Grounds:
  - Craig Ganz feels the cold air causing freezing in the upstairs bathroom at the parsonage may be coming in from the attic.

- Moving the washer and dryer at the parsonage was discussed. If they cannot be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Pastor Jeff Schlesinger would prefer they are kept in the basement.
- The team is still working on getting an additional bid on the upstairs parsonage bathroom from a different contractor. Diane Englehart asked if contractors within our congregation have been approached. The team can check with them.
- Worship: No report
- Hospitality: No report
- Farm: No report
- Education: No report
- Scholarship: No report
- Audit: No report
- Parish: Covered at the joint Council meeting
- Memorial: No report

A motion was made by Jill Ross and seconded by Diane Englehart to approve the team reports. The motion carried.

LYO REPORT – No report. Pastor Jeff Schlesinger will encourage them to select an LYO Council Representative.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

- 2018 Budget – Pastor Jeff Schlesinger's payroll numbers were filed in based on the amount approved at the joint Council meeting. The figures reflect full-time employment with Immanuel paying 67%. Staff salaries were entered with a proposed 3% increase. ELCA World Hunger was added as a line item to the Stewardship section with a figure of \$1,200.00. Funds we raise for ELCA World Hunger will go towards the yearly budget goal. Harlan Eames and Scott Schlesinger can determine if quarterly is easier to manage than monthly. We will need to decide if the ELCA World Hunger benevolence envelope should be moved to an earlier month next year. The 2018 budget will be further reviewed at the December meeting.
- New Council Member – Bob Kromm approached Brad Ehlers about joining Council. He is considering the opportunity. The Council should also nominate some delegates for the Synod Assembly and Mendota Lutheran Home prior to the annual meeting. For the Synod Assembly, we need a male and female delegate, and also a male and female alternate. Randy Schlesinger volunteered to go as a delegate. For the Mendota Lutheran Home, we need two delegates.
- Endowment Transfer – The guidelines for \$10,000.00 Endowment Fund disbursement are 25% to the Capital Improvement Fund, 25% to the Scholarship Fund and the remaining 50% to local charities/causes, as determined by the Council. A motion was made by Bob Kromm and seconded by Diane Englehart to give \$2,000.00 to Horizon House, \$2,000.00 to Kreider Services and \$1,000.00 to MASS. The motion carried.

The date for the annual meeting was set for Sunday, January 28. Each team should determine if it needs to recruit additional members for 2018. The only team currently not active is the Hospitality team.

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 6:30p.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jill Ross and seconded by Charlene Zimmerman. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52p and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Sarah Goetz

### Prayer Corner

#### Homebound

Donna Albers  
Dorothy Burkart  
Fountain Neal  
Marilyn Ward  
June Schlesinger  
Harold Schlesinger

#### Monthly Requests

Robert Hornung (LuAnn Kromm's brother)  
Ron Yemerich (Connie Williams' brother)  
Cindy Schlesinger  
Hannah York (LuAnn Kromm's niece)

#### Baptisms

Sophia Belle Martinez (May 7)  
Cayden Anthony & Corbin Brooks Herbert (May 14)  
Santiago Luis Delgado (July 23)  
Shayne Stephen & Caylin Marie Prodzinski (July 30)  
Axel Dean Cartwright (September 24)  
Ryan Thomas Gibertini (December 30)

#### Mourning Families

Family of Scott Von Lanken  
Tom Derrico Family (February 22)  
Wilma Boltz Family (March)  
Tracy Walzer Family (April 8)  
Jann Eich Family (May 21)  
Gerry Neal Family (May 25)  
Bob Eich, Jr. (June 4)  
Byron Walter Family (July)  
Ron Schlesinger Family (July 25)  
Elaine Zimmerman Family (Sept. 19)  
Kay Kromm Family (September 30)  
Will Ruppert Family (November 14)

#### Weddings

Ben & Alejandra Ganz (April 1)  
Rex & Katelyn Vahl (June 17)  
David & Jessica Craig (July 8)  
Daniel & Katie Ganz (August 12)

#### Affirmation of Baptism

Trysta Foster, Brooke Helman (Sept. 24)

#### Pray For

MS Bishop Jeffrey Clements  
ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton  
Immanuel/First Pastor Jeff Schlesinger



December 10 - Holy Baptism

Ryan Thomas Gibertini

Left to right: Catherine Gibertini, Payton Gibertini,  
Stephen Gibertini, Pastor Jeff, Ryan Gibertini,  
Rebecca Wackerlin, Mary Wackerlin.

## LYO Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, January 21 after worship

All donations will go towards  
our ELCA Youth Gathering trip  
to Houston next summer.

# Pancake Breakfast



Next LYO meeting

Sunday, January 14 - 6:00 p.m.

Meal theme - Breakfast



# Sunday School

## January 2018

### Lesson Themes:

<u>January 7:</u>	Jesus' Baptism
<u>January 14:</u>	God Calls Samuel
<u>January 21:</u>	Jonah and the Big Fish; early dismissal for Pancake Breakfast
<u>January 28:</u>	No Sunday School due to Annual Meeting

Sunday School will be in session:

January 7, 14, 21

No Sunday School

January 28

Hope to see everyone back after Christmas break; it's not the same without you!



Remember to check your family's Sunday School folder for communications, completed projects, and missed materials.

For Sunday School information contact:  
Christina Barnickel  
cbarnickel@gmail.com  
(815) 497-3862

*The GingerSnaps*

Education Committee Meeting  
January 21 at 5:00 p.m.  
Church Office



Thank you so much to the following people for their part in Breakfast in Bethlehem! It was great morning with fabulous food, fellowship, drama, fun and remembering the true meaning of Christmas.

### Music

Sarah Goetz

### Biblical Characters

Kathy Ross-Narrator

Caytlin Prodzenski- Asst. Narrator

Alyssa McCormick- Mary

Shayne Prodzenski- Joseph

Ryan Gibertini-Shepherd Boy

Luke Ross-Shepherd Father

Rachel McCormick- Wise gal #1

Oliva Ross- Wise gal #2

Marie Barnickel- Wise gal #3

Meghan Crumpton- Angel



### Marketplace/Servers

**Psalms Fruit Stand-** Alyssa McCormick, Marie Barnickel

**Bethlehem Bakery-** Caytlin Prodzenski, Meghan Crumpton, Shayne Prodzenski

**Caesar Augustus Tax Service-** Luke Ross, Kayla McCormick

**Trinkets R Us-** Rachel McCormick, Olivia Ross

**Star of David Meats & Eggs-** Daryl Rosenkrans, Rhonda McCormick, Jennifer Crumpton, Aiden Znaniecki, Kody Hoadley, Stanley Hoelzer

## JANUARY EVENTS:

January Bible Study: **MULTIPLE MEANINGS: LEARNING FROM OTHER INTERPRETATIONS**

"Washing hands with distant hearts"

Theme Verse: Mark 7:1-12

Wednesday, January 3 at 1:30 p.m. - WELCA Bible Study

Leader: Margaret Ross Hostess: Christa Edwards



**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16 at 12:30 p.m. - Sewing & Tying Quilts (NOTE TIME CHANGE)**

Anyone who can come to help for an hour or two would be welcomed. We can ALWAYS use extra hands.

Sewing Day is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. We have lots of fun and NO EXPERIENCE is necessary.

*Copies of the 2018 Committee and Bible Study booklets and Directory are now available in the overflow.*

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### **JUSTICE (MISSION ACTION) - Charlene Zimmerman**

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

The Holiday rush with lots of food and get togethers are over. But homelessness hasn't magically disappeared. We are blessed with warm homes and warm clothes, so let us bless others with the supplies needed by ILLINOIS VALLEY PADS. Put your donations in the PADS box in the overflow. Thank You.

#### **Supplies**

Paper Plates  
Napkins  
Paper bowls  
Coffee Cups (disposable)  
Sandwich Bags  
Brown Lunch Bags  
Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
Gallon/Quart Freezer Bags  
Plastic Wrap  
Plastic Spoons  
Garbage Bags (39 & 13 Gal.)  
Pump Hand Soap

#### **Personal Care Essentials**

(individual/travel sizes)  
Soap  
Shampoo & Conditioner  
Solid Deodorants  
Toothpaste  
Combs & Brushes  
Shaving Cream  
Razors (no single blades)  
Flip Flops/Shower Shoes  
Cough Drops  
Weather Ponchos  
Asst. Socks & Underwear

#### **Cleaning Supplies**

Toilet Bowl Cleaner  
Laundry Soap  
White Vinegar  
Bleach  
Pinesol  
Air Freshener Spray  
Soft Scrub  
Dish Soap

#### **Food**

Bottled Water  
Powdered Drink Mix  
Juice Boxes  
Coffee  
Creamer  
Dry Cereal  
Soups  
Peanut Butter  
Jelly (reg & sugar free)  
Individually Packaged Snacks

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### **WELCA PRESIDENT'S DESK - Sarah Pfeifer**

I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday. Please mark your calendars for the annual meeting later this month. We need everyone to attend to be sure that all voices are heard. We resume our quilting later this month and we will be starting at a later time: 12:30 p.m. and will tie for the afternoon. Please consider coming for fellowship and service. If you wish, you can take some fleece home and tie a quilt for us. The fleece is on the bench in the overflow. Thank you to those members who are working on projects for us at home. Please remember to bring items for PADS and place them in the box in the overflow. Stay warm this winter and hopefully the snowy Sundays will not keep you from church.

## Volunteers are needed for the following

Look in the 2018 Committee Yearbook for more details & call the church office

Soup & Sandwich Supper: 6:00-6:40 p.m. before Lenten Services (dates coming)

Greeters for Lenten Services: 6:30 p.m. (dates coming)

Ushers for Good Friday (March 30): 1:00 p.m. (2 people needed)

Funeral Lunch Committee: (1 person needed)

Sewing & Tying Quilts: (3 people needed to help set up)

N.I.C.E. Food Pantry Workers: 8:00-11:00 a.m. every Saturday in March & Sept.  
March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31 - (4 people needed each Saturday)  
Sept. 1, Sept. 8, Sept. 15, Sept. 22, Sept. 22, Sept. 29 - (4 people needed each Saturday)  
**(sign up on the schedule in the overflow)**

Volunteers at Mendota Lutheran Home: (2 people needed - contact Eunice Rogers)

Ushers: We are also looking for Sunday morning ushers at 8:30 a.m. worship. Individuals, couples, or families are welcome to be ushers. Sign up in the overflow and pick which week or month you would like, or call the church office.

### WELCA BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, April 3, 1:30 p.m. - WELCA Quarterly Meeting: (need a hostess)

Wednesday, June 6, 9:00 a.m.: (need a Leader)

Tuesday, July 3, 9:00 a.m.: (need a Hostess)

Wednesday, July 11, 6:00 p.m. - Ladies Night Out at El Zarape: (need hostess & program)

Wednesday, November 7, 1:30 p.m.: (need a Leader)

Wednesday, December 5, 1:30 p.m.: (need a Leader)

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9-12 &amp; 12:30-3:30

Phone (815) 539-6567

## January 2018

Pastor Jeff Schiesinger Ph. 815/878-4503

E-mail: photo.pastor1965@gmail.com

E-mail: [immmanuelutheranconpcou@tve.com](mailto:immmanuelutheranconpcou@tve.com)  
Website: [www.immanuelutheranconpcou.org](http://www.immanuelutheranconpcou.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 1:30 WELCA Bible Study	4 6:30 Purch Team meets at Immanuel	5 9:00 Bible Study	6 6:00 NOTT meets at (TBA)
7 8:30 Worship, here 9-45 Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ Lee 6:30 Confirmation	8	9	10	11 6:30 CHURCH COUNCIL	12 9:00 Bible Study	13
14 8:30 Worship, here 9-45 Sunday School 10:30 Worship @ Lee 6:00 LVO meeting	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 12:30 (time change) Sewing & Tying Quilts	17	18	19 9:00 Bible Study	20
21 8:30 morning, here 9:45 Sunday School LVO Priscilla breakfast 10:30 morning @ Lee 1:00 Education Team mtg. 6:30 Confirmation	22	23	24	25	26 9:00 Bible Study	27
28 8:30 Worship, here (no Sunday School) 9-45 ANNUAL MEETING 6:00 6th Sunday Readers @ parsonage	29	30	31		31 BENEVOLENCE Local Outreach	

# LAY PARTICIPANTS

## USHERS

## LECTORS

## COMMISSION ASSISTANTS

## ACCOLITES

### JANUARY 7

8:30 - (need 2 volunteers)

Jill Ross

Carol Kern & Fran Barber

Christa Ross

### JANUARY 14

8:30 - (need 2 volunteers)

Christy Edwards

Rhonda & Alyssa McCormick

Ruthel McCormick

### JANUARY 21

8:30 - (need 2 volunteers)

Sarah Pfeiffer

Mary Wackarlin & Kayla McCormick

Arlene Zimnicki

### JANUARY 28

8:30 - (need 2 volunteers)

Karla Emsel

Hurlen & Karla Emsel

Shayne Prodzinski

ALTAZ COMMITTEE - Connie Benz (818/709-3062) Lillian Evans (818/925-8732)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR - 9:30 a.m. Sunday (coffee, juice, sweet rolls)

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Luke Ross
- 2 - Zoe Mulschy
- 3 - Chris Bittner/Kate Herbert
- 4 - Julie Zinke/Alice Osborn
- 7 - Felipe Wade
- 8 - Stanley Hoeder/Ruby Debbels/Christie Debbels  
Kate Hoffer/Nick Hoffer/Joel Johnson/Randy Debbels
- 9 - Eric Debbels
- 10 - Marie Bernickel/Wriffin Collins
- 12 - Tom Ferguson/Rene Engelhart/Matt Engelhart
- 13 - Jill Debbels
- 15 - Bob Lynn
- 16 - Marissa Bernickel
- 18 - Brandon Heiman
- 19 - Deb Senaebrenner
- 20 - Terry Miller
- 21 - Tony Foster/Joach Alberts
- 25 - Dan Serner
- 27 - Dean Foster
- 28 - Jessica Albert/Julie Johnson/Mel Johnson
- 29 - John J. Mueller
- 30 - Carolyn Herbert/Carson Herbert

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 - Roger & Linda Griska
- 24 - Gene & Cecile Williams

January 7 - Lillian Evans

January 14 - Craig & Connie Benz

January 21 - Susan Bittner

January 28 - Bernie Childs

We need 2 ushers for each Sunday in January. The 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the overflow or call the church office if you would like to volunteer.

