



# What does it mean to be a Stephen Minister?

BY RUTH ANN KATILIUS

In 2013 I was one of the first groups trained and commissioned as a Stephen Minister (SM) at Immanuel. During the 11 years as a SM, I have had four Care Receivers (CR). Each CR has had their own unique problems/concerns. As a Care Giver (CG) I would call my CR and meet with her weekly. We would meet at a place of her choice, whether at her home, a park, restaurant, or my home for one hour. During that hour my CR would tell me how she was feeling, she might be sad or depressed, feeling better. She would let me know if she had a good or bad week. There were times we would laugh together and sometimes cry. My main goal as a CG is to be a good listener. Sometimes I would offer suggestions to help her make decisions or changes, but never tell her what she should or should not do. At the close of our meetings, I would pray with her. My last CR said our prayer time and holding hands was the best part of our meeting. Unfortunately, my first two CR's have passed away, but I still continue to pray for my last two.

Once a month our SM team meets to discuss our CR's and how they are doing. SM is based on confidentiality and trust. We never use our CR's name at any point in time.

God led me to become a SM and it has been such a beautiful experience for me. I have grown closer to God, and I know He is always helping and guiding me with my CR. We know only God is our cure giver, but I love being a vessel for loving and helping others as Jesus wants us to do.

I have made lasting friendships with my SM team. Even though I do not currently have a CR I remain friends and see my last CR.

SM is a wonderful based Christian Ministry, and I would highly recommend it for anyone who is searching for help in their life or just needs someone to talk to. It does not matter about your circumstances, we are here to love and support you.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**  
 Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY IS HERE FOR YOU

Are you going through a tough time?

Discouraged?

Sad?

Lonely?

For more information:  
 Contact your Stephen Leaders  
 Deacon Cheryl: 772-485-1954  
 Jerry Schuler: 716-254-0784  
 or one of the pastors for more information.

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### OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

NATALEE EDWARDS

## ALTAR GUILD

We will meet on November 13th at 10 am in the Room 202 of the Palm City campus.

Anyone interested in helping serve communion or taking care of the altar at either location, please come. If you have been thinking of joining us, this would be a good time to check us out.

For more information, call Marj Smith at 772-286-8974 or Belinda Lowe at 772-634-0194.

# PRESCHOOL UPDATE

BY NATALIE DAVIS

Hey Immanuel friends,

Happy November!!! October was such a fun month here at Immanuel! Even with some hurricanes making their way through, they didn't get us down! We kept right on learning and having a blast! Trunk or Treat with all our creative costumes and decorated cars was a hit, and it was so much fun celebrating with all the parents who joined in. Thanks to everyone for making it a memorable Halloween!

Now, with Thanksgiving coming up, we're starting to get ready for the holiday season. November will be full of thankful hearts, and we'll soon begin practicing for our Christmas music and show! We can't wait to share the magic of the season with all of you. Wishing everyone a wonderful November!

Sincerely,

Ms. Natalie and the Immanuel Staff



FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE



# YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

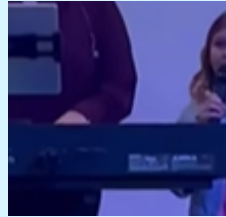
BY BRITTANY PERALTA

As the cooler days come our way for the holiday season, we're taking a moment to reflect on all we have to be thankful for here in our community. This past month has been filled with joy and fellowship, and I hope your hearts are as full as mine.

Our recent movie night was a blast! We all cozied up with popcorn, enjoyed each other's company, and laughed along to Hocus Pocus. Seeing everyone together—friends new and old—brought such warmth to the evening. Thank you to all who joined in and made it a truly magical night!

Looking forward, we're excited to continue to promote our annual wreath fundraiser! Each wreath is a beautiful addition to your home and a great way to support our youth! This year, the wreaths will arrive just after Thanksgiving, adding to the festive spirit as we prepare for the holidays. Orders are open now, so be sure to place yours and spread some greenery, beauty, and cheer!

As Thanksgiving approaches, let's pause to appreciate the many blessings around us: our friends, family, and the wonderful moments we create together. May this season be filled with gratitude and the warmth of Immanuel and our community.



# CLEMENTINE'S LEGACY

Note: The following article has appeared the last five years in this newsletter. With our in-person worship attendance diminished and amid challenges meeting our financial obligations due to increased insurance premiums and historic inflation rates, we received a distribution of \$26,000 from the Clementine Zacke Foundation. It could not have come at a more opportune time.

Allow me to introduce you to Clementine Zacke. Clementine was born on September 13, 1914. She joined Immanuel Lutheran Church on December 4, 1987, almost one month before Immanuel became the first congregation of the new Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Clementine died on January 25, 1997 at the age of eighty-two years.

But Clementine's story doesn't end there. Nor her relationship with Immanuel. Before her death she had the foresight to create a foundation and establish a trust naming Immanuel as one of its beneficiaries, including the Treasure Coast Hospice and several education entities serving Martin County students.

For the last twenty-seven years Immanuel has gratefully received annual distributions from the Clementine Zacke Foundation. The stipulation was that the funds were to be primarily used to support Immanuel's various youth programs and have allowed us to retain a Children, Youth and Family Director. Clementine felt that the youth were the future of the church and the world.

What will be your legacy? Immanuel offers many opportunities to leave a perpetual personal legacy or one honoring or remembering a loved one. In addition to naming Immanuel as a beneficiary in your will or trust, we have three endowment funds as well as our memorial fund. If you would like more information regarding your legacy, contact Ron Froehlich, Finance Chairman.

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

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### Monthly Giving Report

A report of our combined Palm City & Stuart giving compared to the approved budget the congregation agreed to at the annual meeting.

	September 2024	YTD 2024
<b>Given</b>	<b>\$49,427.04</b>	<b>\$379,603.06</b>
<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>\$47,812.50</b>	<b>\$372,937.50</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$1,614.54</b>	<b>\$6,665.56</b>

### Operating Fund Income and Expenses

Our year-to-date operating income and expenses using the latest report of the treasurer.

ILC & IELC	YTD 2024
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$988,565.76</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$955,932.67</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$32,633.09</b>



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772.287.8188

**STUART**  
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Stuart, FL 34994  
772.692.1171

Nonprofit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Stuart, FL  
Permit No. 144

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## Immanuel Palm City *Deck the Halls*

Decorate the sanctuary for Christmas  
Lunch Provided  
Youth: White Elephant

Saturday, November 30th | 10 AM

## thrivent MEMBERS

Please remember to use your Action Team benefit before the end of the year. The following programs can use your help: Snack Bags, Soup Kitchen, Immanuel Early Learning Center (our preschool) and perhaps an event of your choice.

Please do not leave the "money" unused. For those of you, who have already used your Thrivent Benefit, Thank you!

For additional information call me Karen Coombs @772-475-3312  
or your Thrivent representative.

## Immanuel Stuart *Advent Luncheon*

Decorate the sanctuary for Christmas

Sunday, December 1st | 11:30 AM

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MINISTRY



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or one of the pastors for more information.