

# The Messenger

JUNE 2014

## Readiness 360

I'm sure you have wondered about the results of our Readiness 360 survey. There was nothing earth shattering in it, but the results validated some of the conclusions our vitality team had also arrived at. As you can see in the results below, we ranked highest in spiritual intensity.



# READINESS 360

Multiply your impact.

97% of those participating in the survey said "there is a spiritual expectancy in the air. People are watching and expecting God to do something amazing." That is amazing that most of us are anticipating God to something big!

Our job is to be alert and engaged with the movement of the Spirit. In the near future, you will see more opportunities to become involved in the life of the church. There will also be opportunities to equip you for new ministry opportunities. On June 8th we will be installing 4 new caring ministers - Jerry Ward, Eunice Shippee, Norberta Russo and Linda Lakins. What a joy this is to see this important ministry expand!

As we discussed the survey, our team realized that only 60% of our congregation report that their spiritual gifts and talents are being utilized. We would like to see that number go higher. It may be that you are already using some gifts but just do not recognize it. It is probably time to do another "Unwrapping Our Gifts" workshop series.

This is an exciting time for Emmanuel. Let's celebrate what God is doing in our midst!

### Readiness 360 Results Report:

Congratulations for being willing to engage in a serious conversation about your readiness to reach new people in new ways! The Christian movement in North America was strong for so many generations because churches planted new churches that planted new churches. Untold thousands of churches, decade after decade, state after state! Only a small percentage of today's churches still have multiplication of ministry on their radar. Your church does - and that sets you apart!

Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ asked several of its leaders and participants to participate in the *Readiness 360* process. The survey many of you took assesses your church's spiritual and practical readiness for faithful and effective ministry in the 21st century. 50 persons took the *Readiness 360*, a mix of staff, key leaders and active ministry participants.

The *Readiness 360* assesses four critical capacities for multiplying thriving ministries. In the rating system below, your church's level of multiplication energy is indicated by the number of rabbits (God's most adorable multipliers). The more multiplication energy your church has, the more ready you will be to start something new. Emmanuel is strongest in terms of Spiritual Intensity and is most challenged in terms of Cultural Openness.

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"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"

-Mark 12-30

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## Readiness 360 (continued from page 1)

KEY:  =not ready \_\_\_\_\_  =more than ready

“But the path of  
the righteous is like  
the light of dawn,  
which shines  
brighter and  
brighter until full  
day”  
- Proverbs 4:18

### Spiritual Intensity:

In many respects, Emmanuel is on fire in its love for God, but there is also some hesitation to go the full mile. It is well worth exploring what is limiting you in the area of Spiritual Intensity. You are so close to having the fuel necessary to multiply ministry.

### Missional Alignment:

Your church often practices what it preaches. But there are yet a few discrepancies - priorities and activities that don't really align with its stated mission.

### Cultural Openness:

On one hand, many in the church want to reach diverse people, but many in the church still have great apprehension about what this might mean in terms of changing the face of Emmanuel. There may be some limitations in terms of how far the church is able to reach toward different kinds of people in the next few years. Open communication will be critical.

### Dynamic Relationships:

There are some amazing relationship building genes within your congregation and they fuel an overall relational health. However, there at least one or two issues that should be addressed.



Emmanuel has received a very generous donation of a house located here in Massena. There is a bit of cleaning and work that needs to be done at the house. We are hoping to have a group of volunteers to help make quick work of what needs to be done. If you are interested in helping please see Brenda Seguin or Pastor Judy.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
Join us for Bible  
stories, crafts, music, and  
dancing. Classes start at  
10 AM.



# Shanti Sadan Ministries - Hands of Christ

The following is an excerpt from the Shanti Sadan Ministries Newsletter. It provides some insight in to one aspect of the Shanti Sadan Ministries, an organization that has previously received support from Emmanuel.

Jas 1:27 The religion which is holy and free from evil in the eyes of our God and Father is this: to take care of children who have no fathers and of widows who are in trouble, and to keep oneself untouched by the word.

The above scripture tells us to take care of the widows.

Indian society (rural) is dominated by religious and superstitions cultural practices. Wherein a widow is considered as a bad sign and forced to live a lonely and depressed life. As per the census of 2001 in India 7% of widows are living alone and 8% of the female population is widows.

The widows in the local church gather every week at church for pray for the people and evangelize to the villagers. Once a month they will get a food pack. Each food pack contains: Rice, edible oil, onions, lentils, eggs and bread along with shampoo, soaps and detergents.



## Special Guests at Emmanuel in June



### Sunday - June 8

On Pentecost Sunday David Gaewski, UCCNY Conference Minister, will be preaching at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. A pot luck lunch will follow service.

### Wednesday - June 11

Presentation by Laura Jean Torgerson who were appoint-ed by the Common Global Ministries Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ to serve a 3-1/2 year term with the Chris-tian Mission Church in Nicaragua. All are welcome to attend. Pot luck supper will be at 5:30 p.m. with a presentation at 7:00.

## Mother's Day Breakfast a Success

A big thank you to all that supported the Mother's Day Breakfast fundraiser. To all of you that organized, worked, or donated and to all of you that came to the event we are greatly appreciative of your support. The event raised nearly \$500 for the Emmanuel general fund.



## Executive Council Meeting Summary

**MISSIONS** - One Great Hour of Sharing Collection at Emmanuel raised \$261

**CHRISTIAN ED** – Jane Dubray reported that Bambi and Kaitlin are doing the babies group and it is working well. Jane is very happy with the way all the classes are going. They will stop for the summer break at the end of June.



St. Mary's will be hosting the ecumenical Vacation Bible School and has asked to have it located at Emmanuel again this year.

**DEACONS** – Commissioning of our new Caring Ministers will take place on Pentecost, Sunday June 8th.

**TRUSTEES** - Safe and Sound equipment has arrived. Matt, Gary & Terry are going to spot where cameras are to go. Kate volunteered Pete to install. The hearing assistance equipment has arrived and is also awaiting installation.

The budget is holding and the bills are being paid. The leak upstairs is coming from the Bell Tower. We have a spray rubber sealer that Glenn Jacks is going to put on. Still working on fixing furnace in Christian Education Building. Their next meeting is Thursday, June 12th at 6:30 in the Library.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Judy is preaching at the First Methodist Church on Sunday, May 25th, Nancy Radcliff will be our guest preacher on June 1, and on June 8th our Conference Minister Rev. David Gaewski will be preaching with a pot luck lunch to follow.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Ruth Wheeler has transferred ownership of her house in Massena to Emmanuel Congregational, UCC.

Judy will look into applying for an intern for 2015 now that we have a place for them to stay. All in favor.

Readiness 360 Report was passed out. Fifty people at Emmanuel took the survey. The Vitality Group will study this further.

June 11 missionaries will speak followed by a pot luck dinner. Mary Jane Purves and Linda Lakins will organize June 8 & 11. July 6th is the Ecumenical Service at our church. Brenda Seguin and Mary Jane Purves will do hot dogs and salads in the parking lot after church. July 20th Rev Freeman Palmer, Association Conference Minister will be speaking. Checked with Mary Jo Fairbanks about having the church picnic that Sunday. She will get back to regarding the availability of tents.

We are thinking about a block party in August.

MCHS Class of '75 would like to have a Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser at our church.

*"The Lord is my  
rock and my  
fortress and my  
deliverer,  
my God, my  
rock, in whom I  
take refuge,  
my shield, and  
the horn of my  
salvation, my  
stronghold"*  
- Psalms 18:2

# Announcements and Events

**Church Office Hours** - Monday through Thursday from 9am until noon.

**At the Well** - We invite you to join us ...at the well, every Wednesday at 7:30 pm, in alternative worship to share in a "sense" of God. All are welcome!

**Praying with the Scriptures** - Join us on Tuesday mornings at 10:15 in the Church Multi-Purpose Room as Rev. Gen Dox leads us in listening for the Word of God.

**Coffee Hours** - The "Cow Can" at the Coffee Hour is for donations to buy supplies for the weekly Coffee Hours. Also, we need people to sign up for a turn at hosting a Coffee Hour. The sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall and there is a "to do list" in the kitchen that tells you what's required.

**Donations for Food Pantry** - There is a basket in the entry way for donations of non-food and non-perishable food items which are taken to the food pantry at the Massena Neighborhood Center. Thank you!

**Prayer Chain** - If you would like to be on the Prayer Chain or if you have prayers to add, please call Mary Jo Fairbanks at 769-7936 or email her at mfairbanks@twcny.rr.com

**Free Will Dinner** - First United Methodist Church - 189 Main St., Massena - Thursdays from 4:30—6:00 p.m. (except July 4, October 25 and November 28, 2013) EVERYONE is welcome!

**Knitwits** - Interested in Knitting? Whether you are a seasoned pro or a new beginner join the Knitwits each Wednesday at 6:30pm.

**Free Community Lunch** - Emmanuel Congregational Church - 39 West Orvis Street, Massena - Third Monday of each month (Schedule may vary if conflicting with holidays) - EVERYONE is welcome!

**Has your group decided to hold a gathering? Please remember to notify the church office. Our email address is ecuccmassena@gmail.com and our 24/7 answering machine number is 769-8523. We thank you for letting us know of your meeting plans.**

## Additional Calendar Items

Sunday	June 8	11:00	Pentecost Sunday, special guest David Gaewski, pot luck lunch after service
Tuesday	June 10	1:30	Friends' Study Group
Wednesday	June 11	5:30	Pot Luck Dinner & Presentation by guests from Christian Mission Church
Thursday	June 13	6:30 PM	Trustees Meeting - Church Library
Monday	June 16	11:30	Free Community Lunch @ Emmanuel
Sunday	June 22	12:30	Executive Council Meeting - Library