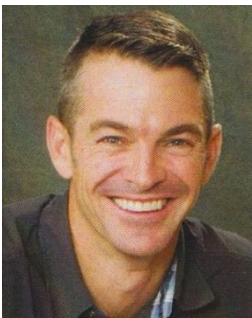




March 2019

*“We exalt God above all by evangelizing, equipping
and embracing all nations.”*



“God is light; in him there is
no darkness at all.”

1 John 1:5

This past month, the Houston Chronicle published three articles— “Abuse of Faith,” “Offend, Then Repeat,” and “Preying on Teens”— in which they addressed the gut-wrenching reality of sexual abuse in Southern Baptist churches over the past twenty years. While such revelatory journalism has become quite commonplace in the twenty first century, the findings of this research hit all too close to home. As Southern Baptists, the issues raised by these articles affect us, Immanuel.

Despite being far removed from the frontlines of this inquisition, we are responsible, along with all our sister churches in the convention, for the witness we present to a watching world. How we respond to these sickening revelations will directly affect the platform from which we attempt to speak truth to a generation fast becoming disillusioned with organized religion.

As a denomination noted for loud disapproval of sexual immorality, the Chronicle’s revelations come with a pain and embarrassment we may liken to that felt by one whose hand has been caught in the proverbial cookie jar.

Such moral failure, quickly seized upon by skeptical secular society as further evidence of religion’s hypocrisy, cannot be brushed under the rug. We cannot appear to excuse such wickedness with the

all too familiar cliché, “we’re not perfect people but we are forgiven.” While God’s grace does cover sin, now is not the time to seemingly dismiss the pain caused by these despicable actions in favor of the message of God’s amazing grace. Yes, His grace is amazing, but it is so because it rescues us from His just wrath at such sinful actions as those under consideration. Therefore, our hearts should break for these, our neighbors, who have been wounded by the very ones who claim to love them as they love themselves.

Immanuel, we must openly denounce all forms of sexual violence and distance ourselves from those who claim fellowship with Christ and yet prey upon His least. Further, we must strive to be a body that protects and provides healing for all victims of abuse. And finally, we must ensure that our conduct is performed in the light for “if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his son, purifies us from all sin.”

Rejoice!
Andrew Morgan



Coffee Fellowship

Coffee is available in the Fellowship Hall before Sunday School every Sunday. Please join us!

GREETERS SCHEDULE

Brenda Pearson (east)
Jill Braungart (west)
Rory van Brackel (south)

NOTE: Feel free to change doors assigned. This way you meet your old friends!!

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Our Adult Discipleship Class, Youth, RAs, GAs and Mission Friends continue meeting at 6:15. For those planning to attend, dinner is served at 5:30. Please sign up for these dinners so that we can prepare the appropriate portions. Also, sign up to take a turn at providing a dessert. Following are the menus for March.

- 6 - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Peas
- 13 - Chicken Cacciatore over Rice, Green Beans
- 20 - Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips
- 27 - Chicken Noodle, Veg. Beef Soup, Sandwiches

IMMANUEL'S WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the date of Saturday, March 30!!!

The Retreat will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch being served. The speaker will be Lisa Law with the topic, "Redeeming Fear." Invite a friend. Please register with the office so that we will be prepared for lunch.



All men are invited to a breakfast on Saturday, March 23, at 8:00, followed by a discussion of the Discipline of Mind.



Do you enjoy holding babies and playing with toddlers? We are looking for a few more ladies or teen girls to volunteer to join our **nursery** rotation. You would serve with Betsy Jarrett and one other Immanuel lady once every other month.

We also have need of men, women, and youth to join the **children's worship** rotation. You would serve with Cheryl Moore and one other volunteer once every other month. No teaching required—just a set of helping hands!

If you are interested, contact Kristin Shockley at 302-466-5016.

IMMANUEL ON MISSION

WMU

Thanks to everyone who gave to our **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**. We exceeded our goal of \$7,700 this year to support international missions. Our partnership with IMB means that our small church reaches big cities and remote villages in Jesus' name.

The Week of Prayer for the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions** is March 3-10. The theme is Sending Hope...as believers, we are called to boldly send the hope of the gospel. (I Peter 1:3) No matter where we are, God is calling us to be on mission through praying, giving and going. With over 273 million people in North America who do not know Christ, the need is great, and the mission is far from finished. Our goal is \$3,100. Be in prayer for your participation, and thank you for your partnership in reaching this mission field.

Our Mission Partners

Paul and Laurel Morgan

Their trip to Rwanda went very well. They really feel that God answered prayers. They gathered a lot of information about Kigali, Musanze and Gisenyi and are eager to share the findings with their group. So far, there has been a peaceful transition of power after elections, and they are anxious to get back into a routine. Continue to pray for the Congolese believers to not waiver in their faith. Paul continues working with the Lika team with final technical checks on their New Testament. Pray for the successful eradication of Ebola in Congo. Thanks for your prayers.

James and Sarah Morgan

We appreciate your prayers and support for the work here! We desire to see God's kingdom grow

among the Maithili mega-segment. And we desire to see 'local ownership' of this task among the churches here. Pray for existing partners and new relationships being formed. When there's a storm going on around us, God is still there and He is our refuge and strength! He doesn't always choose to calm the storm, but we can cry out to and take rest in Him. We appreciate your prayers and support for the work here! God is perfect and able, over all and working in all...a very awe-provoking thought!

Redemption City, NAMB, Baltimore

We hope to have a few members of Redemption City share with us the progress of their church plant in the Canton area of Baltimore City. The whole church will be invited on a Saturday afternoon to celebrate the first year for RCC and find out how we can encourage that work just across the Bay. Pray for them to reach their goal of fifty committed members on that Anniversary!

Free English Salisbury

Classes are going well and we continue to have new students participating. March will be our last month for active classes. Pray for the students to continue to gain skills in English and to have hearts and ears to hear the Truth of the Gospel. Pray for the Lord to send us more helpers, teachers, and students.

Ladies Bible Study

Pray that these ladies will not only grow in their English ability, but that they will also grow spiritually. Pray that the teachers and helpers have wisdom and energy for the task and the Lord to send us more helpers, teachers, and students!

If you have a gospel opportunity for our members to serve the local community, please contact Heather before the next meeting of the Missions Team on March 8 at 3:00 p.m.

Our Members on Mission

Jessica and Will at Southern Seminary
Emely Martin
East Salisbury Elementary School

Mission Giving

Annie Armstrong NAMB Offering

Mission Opportunities

Thursday night child care workers for ESL

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST



For the past six months between 15-20 men have been meeting once a month on a Saturday morning for a lite breakfast and a healthy discussion of what are Godly traits we need to foster in our lives as godly men. The book by R. Kent Hughes, "Disciplines of a Godly Man" has been the guide for our discussion. Although the book has 19 chapters, fourteen men of the church have volunteered to facilitate our discussion. After each of our sessions, we break-out into small groups and pray for one another regarding the topics we just discussed. Men, if you have not attended one of these breakfasts, it's not too late. Come and join us for our next event on March 23 at 8:00 a.m. led by Kye Parson. Kye will lead us in our discussion on Discipline of the Mind.

WHY OBSERVE COMMUNION

Communion is extremely important because Jesus asked his followers to follow the practice often – in remembrance of him. Was that a request we should ignore?

Communion is significant because it reminds us of the price Christ paid for our salvation – his death on the cross. "This is my body, which is given for you." (Luke 22:19)

It is also a symbol of the new covenant which God has made with us in Christ. Upon taking the cup of wine, our Lord said, "This is my blood of the new covenant" (Matthew 26:28). He is our Lord. Communion helps us remember that we are his people, servants of the covenant-maker.

The ordinance is a vivid reminder that we are grateful that we are tied to Christ and look forward to his ultimate triumph on Earth. We partake of Communion joyfully, thanking God for the gift of Christ and anticipating his final victory when he shall be known worldwide as “King of kings and Lord of lords” (Revelation 19:16).

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Medical Needs

Bounds, Amy
 Baker, Penny
 Davis, Pat – Leukemia
 Hamula, Tina – (B. Nibblett)
 Jordan, Kevin – Liver
 Jordan, Maryanne – Sciatic nerve
 Simpson, Joyce

Long-Term Needs

Brandt, John – Chron’s disease
 Cheek, Virginia – Genesis
 Duncan, Sue
 Henderson, Jeff – MS
 Merritt, Joan
 Muenster, Cindy
 Powell, Missy
 Schneider, Irving – Genesis (Centreville)
 Tarr, Joann – Stage 1
 Straub, Marge – Wicomico N. H.

(Please let the office know when someone should be added or removed from these lists.)



Be sure to turn your clocks ahead on March 9 so that you won't be late for Sunday School on the 10th.



MARCH

- 2 Jessica Moon
George Webster
- 3 Tabitha Morgan
Zachary Wootten
- 5 Dottie Warfield
- 7 Martha Morgan
- 13 Carolyn Aurelio
- 16 Annie Dethloff
- 19 Leigh Ann Blades
- 20 Faye Brittingham
Faye Parker
- 23 Donald Bennett
Robert Blankenship
Gary Webster
- 26 Quint Talbott
- 27 JoAn Vollkommer



The deadline for submitting items of interest for the **April newsletter** is March 20. Please observe this deadline.

“Believe on the
LORD JESUS,
 and you will be saved,
 you and your
 household.”



Acts 16:31, NSRV

