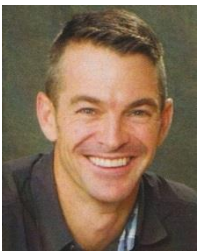




May 2019

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

Healthy marriage, Healthy Church



“Husbands love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy....”

Eph 5:25–26a

The apostle Paul employs a number of analogies in his epistles to describe the nature of Christ’s relationship to his church. He describes the church as Christ’s body where He is the head (1 Corinthians 12:12–30), a building with Christ as the cornerstone (Eph 2:19–22), and a marriage in which Christ is the groom (Eph 5:23). Of all of Paul’s analogies, his marriage comparison is my favorite.

I love to think of Christ’s love for the church in terms of my love for my wife because I know just how much I love Melinda. I remember the first time I saw her and how she made me feel. I recall hearing her sing and the sense of amazement that followed. I remember deciding that I had to speak to her and introduce myself so that she’d know who I was. And I vividly recall trying to forget the fact that she has no recollection of that day or my efforts to that end, at all. I love my wife and would do anything for her, just like Christ in His love for His church, right?

For the longest time I believed the answer to that question was yes. It is only recently that I’ve come to see the subtle difference between my love’s end and Christ’s.

In my love for Melinda, I want to give her the world. I long to provide for her every need and ensure that she experiences life in all its fullness. My love for my wife is so committed to these ends that I am willing to die for her. And as we know, Christ died to secure salvation for His bride so it’s easy to see how I might confuse my love for my wife with that of Christ’s for the church. But friends, they are not the same and when we confuse the two I believe we do so to the detriment of our marriages and the health of the Church.

The goal of Christ’s love for the church isn’t life in all its fullness, but holiness. And while this may seem like a minor distinction, it has major ramifications, men! If our love for our wives desires their holiness, not their happiness, we will lead them spiritually. We will demonstrate godly living. We will be intentional in nurturing them with God’s Word, praying for and with them as directed by God’s Word, and sacrificing ourselves to protect them from sin as described in God’s Word.

Husbands, if we love our wives as Christ loved the church, we will have healthy marriages and Christ will have a healthy church!

Rejoice!

Andrew Morgan

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

GREETERS SCHEDULE

Faye Brittingham (east)
JoAn Vollkommer (west)
Faye Parker (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 May:

- 1 – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas
- 8 – Stir fry chicken, Asian vegetables, rice
- 15 – Pork tenderloin, roasted potatoes, carrots
- 22 – Chicken Alfredo, broccoli
- 29 – Hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, chips



All men are invited to a breakfast on Saturday, April 27, at 8:00, followed by a discussion of the Discipline of Devotion.



If a member of your family will be graduated this year, please let the office know the name of the graduate, relationship to you, and name of the high school or college (with degree).



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

IMMANUEL ON MISSION

WMU

Our goal for the North American Mission Offering was \$3,100. As of this writing, \$3,853.65 has been given toward our goal. Thank you for your participation and continue to pray for this mission.

World Hunger

Thank you for your support of the World Hunger ministry. The total given for this quarter is \$775.72.

Our Mission Partners

Paul and Laurel Morgan

Laurel writes: My passport should be hand carried to Isiro on Thursday! In the last two weeks, we had two very significant conversations to begin the search for a more suitable house. It's really important for us to proceed in a way that shows honor and respect to some important relationships that we have. And God is paving the way for this. Paul first met with our inviting church president here and he gave us his blessing to look into options around town since the church does not have any other options for us. Then just last night, we asked a friend of ours to come over so we could ask him to discretely look around at options for us. He already has several ideas and is the best person for the job because of many connections that he has. Let's pray for God to guide him and show us the way forward.

The kids and I are spending time with some dear friends in Nytanbkunde. They are a MAF family with 3 kids close in age to ours. This was just what our little crew needed and we were so thankful for this time. On top of this, the pilot informed me that our flight was free because we tagged on to someone's chartered flight. What a blessing! Paul and the Eastern Congo Group meeting was an encouraging time of fellowship, sharing, team building, and vision casting.

A picture of their work and prayer requests are found on page 6.

James and Sarah Morgan

On page 5 are some prayer requests and pictures of James and Sarah and their mission.

Free English Salisbury

The 2018/2019 English as a Second Language (ESL) year was celebrated with a fun “picnic” on Thursday evening, April 4. We are already meeting and planning for next year; we need more helpers and teachers! The increased number of students participating in the Spring term required us to add another beginner class. We will hold another training for those interested in helping or teaching here in early August. Paula Law and another instructor will be traveling to Akron, Ohio, in early May to take a course which will certify them to lead training/certification courses. Pray for the Lord to grant the Free English Salisbury leadership wisdom as we plan for the 2019/2020 program.

Lincoln Family

Pray for them to finish well and for their transition. Spiritual oppression is strong during the month of Ramadan (this year the month of May). Please pray for strength and encouragement especially during that time.

Our Members on Mission

Jessica and Will at Southern Seminary

Emely Martin – Pray for CRU students finishing Spring semester with exams and projects, and finding summer mission opportunities.

East Salisbury Elementary School – Volunteers will be assisting in Field Day on May 24.

LADIES SPRING RETREAT

WMU hosted a ladies spring retreat on March 30, 2019, with 65 registered ladies; but it took a “team” to do it. Many thanks to ladies that helped make it happen: Melinda Morgan for Sound, Sylvia and her GAs, Shirley Wood for decorations, Jim Aurelio and Quinn for rescuing the broken water pump, all ladies that helped set up on Friday, all ladies that prayed for us and also attended, the church office for tracking headcount, ladies that brought side dishes of all types, Johanne Niblett for being our connection to that wonderful homemade chicken salad, Liz R for lining up the side dishes, ladies that helped serve and clean up. Most importantly, we

thank Lisa Law for being our wonderful teacher on “Redeeming Fear”. Isaiah 41:10 She spoke on recognizing, redeeming and responding to fear thru Scripture and prayer. Many thanks to all involved in making this a success and glorifying GOD.



We extend our deepest sympathy to Cheryl Moore and her son James in the death of her husband Jay, who passed away on Tuesday, April 9, and the Celebration of Life service was on April 13.

THANK YOU

We want to thank our family at Immanuel again for their support of Jake while working on his Boy Scout Eagle Project. He was approved for promotion to Eagle Scout in December and it will be awarded in a ceremony at Asbury United Methodist Church on Monday, June 11, at 7 p.m.. Everyone is welcome to attend! Thank you again from the Baranowski family!

**MAY**

- 3 Marlyn Stimson
- 6 Quinn Morgan
- 8 Dee Ward
- 9 Beth Bratten
- 13 Hope D'Agostino
- 17 Ed Hooker
Joan Phillips
- 18 Heather Moon
Kayley Parsons
- 20 Isaac Dethloff
- 21 Esther Nyoni
- 22 Kat Reeves
- 25 Hannah Van Zandt

REMEMBER IN PRAYERMedical 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.)

A MOTHER'S EXAMPLE

When I think of my mom, especially on Mother's Day, I recall a scene I witnessed many times during my childhood.

Late at night, just before bedtime, my mother would sit in a rocking chair in the darkness with her head bowed in prayer. When it was nippy, the glow from the space heater revealed a lovely scene that fascinated me.

My bed wasn't far away, and just before I fell asleep, I often saw my mother praying. Her face was beautiful and aglow. She radiated holiness and serenity, and I was deeply affected.

I never once talked to my mom about her prayer life. I was only 17 when she died. As traumatic as it was for me, I wonder if it weren't a rather easy transition for her. After all, she seemed to live with one foot in heaven.

--Charles Ferrell

