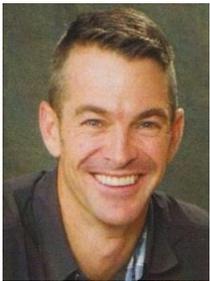




August 2019

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



“Unless the LORD builds the house...”

Psalm 127:1

July plays host to one of the year’s most exciting ministry opportunities—VBS. Every summer over seventy children arrive at our doors chomping at the bit for fun and fellowship centered around God’s Word. And every year some thirty volunteers with hearts to serve the Lord and to love His children step up by leading these little ones to know Him as He has revealed Himself in His Word. This year was no different.

As I’m writing this article we have survived four of five fun filled days featuring temperatures that have hovered at around 100 degrees. Following the theme “In the Wild” based on John 20:31 which reads, “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name,” our students have “encountered” Jesus at a different point in His life each day. From being lost in the temple to walking on water, each child has heard the Gospel of God’s great love for them displayed in Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection; a story whose truths are reinforced through craft times, worship rally, and rec.

Every year it seems that we become more intentional and effective in making the gospel the focus of

everything we do. Because, while we do aim to have fun and desire the children to enjoy themselves, more than anything our hope is that they come to believe in Jesus. This is why the most important aspect of VBS doesn’t occur in the classroom, on the rec field or during the craft time, but in the prayer room.

For the past two years, our VBS has been fueled by a special group of prayer warriors who have provided teachers with a place of quiet between stations where they may be refreshed spiritually as well as physically. This ministry has ensured our VBS’s effectiveness, for in the Psalmists words, “Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.”

Immanuel, thank you for praying for God’s blessing on our VBS. And I challenge you to make prayer a priority. You may not be able to teach or lead art sessions, but we can all pray! May God continue to use us for His glory!

Rejoice!
Pastor Andrew



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.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

There will be no dinners during August but will resume in September. The Discipleship class will continue through this month as well as activities for the children, all beginning at 6:30 p.m.



All men are invited to a breakfast on Saturday, August 24, at 8:00, followed by a discussion of the Discipline of Tongue.



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

IMMANUEL ON MISSION

Thank you to our pastor for encouraging prayer for a family member, friend or neighbor that needs the hope we have in the Gospel. We've had great opportunities with VBS hosting more than 70 students through a very hot week and their families on Celebration Sunday. Pray that God will do much with the Word shared with those students and the meal and outdoor activities enjoyed by families too. Please pray as we have opportunities to reach families in the community through ESL and Back to School night for our school partner. Thank you again to the many who serve cheerfully and pray faithfully for Immanuel on mission that we may reach many more in our community with the Gospel as God does much more among our neighbors.

WMU

Many thanks to all who contributed to World Hunger this quarter. The total collected as of this date is \$551.42. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please pick up an empty bread bank in the back of the sanctuary. Every coin given goes directly to alleviating world hunger.

Ladies Event – Save the date of Saturday, September 14, from 11:00 to 2:00. All ladies are invited to a luncheon at the church with a dynamic speaker from the Congo, Laurel Morgan. It will be hosted by the WMU. Invite a friend.

Our Mission Partners

Paul and Laurel Morgan

They have returned home to DR Congo with much to accomplish in Isiro in August before furlough next month. Pray especially for God to provide a car for their time in the US and more suitable family housing in Isiro next year.

From Laurel – Praise God that we got our passports, Emma's cavity filled, Caleb's typhoid vaccine and a clean bill of health. Praise God that we made it home on Monday even though I had forgotten to book one leg of the trip. We had to charter a flight, taking one day instead of two. Today we started school!

Prayer requests – We were slammed back into the challenging life here in Congo as the border crossing was almost 3 hrs. and having to present passports/yellow fever cards/have temps taken at so many different offices. Arriving in Isiro, a soldier took some money right out of Paul's back pack. It's hard to feel like helpless victims. Now we need to get new residence cards for the 5th time just because there is new government leadership. Thank you for praying for us. At times, we are so discouraged and find ourselves just really struggling. We keep reminding ourselves that God brought us here and we are trying to be compassionate. Continue to pray for the eradication of Ebola, a declared Public Health Emergency.

Technical checks are coming along with three teams close to completing New Testaments. Pray for the hearts of people to receive the word in their hearts language with joy!

James and Sarah Morgan

Continue to pray for safe travel and smooth crossing at the borders as they meet with partners to encourage discipleship and church growth.

Monsoon has brought a lot of heavy rain this year resulting in flooded roads and villages. Pray for those dealing with water in their homes and those whose homes are no more because of the rains Pray for those who have lost loved ones. We need the rain, so we thank God for it, but we are praying for break of the heavy non-stop rain. There are already some relief projects starting. Pray that through the help, the name of Jesus would be proclaimed and the people would come to worship the One True Living God. There has been a large amount of dengue cases as well as some other diseases going around. Please pray for the protection from and for correct and timely diagnoses. Thank you!

Free English Salisbury

Please join us at Immanuel at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 8, for an important time of prayer for the ESL Ministry. We want to pray for this important ministry, and since we partner with other churches, folks from those churches will also be invited. This will be a very encouraging time, so don't miss it!

We will also be hosting another ESL Training for teachers/helpers. Please take advantage of this training even if you are not sure about participating in this ministry. There is no obligation to serve in the ministry after taking the training. Please let Paula Law know if you think you might like to participate. Here are the dates: Friday, August 9, 6 – 9 pm; Saturday, August 10, 8:45 am – 4 pm.

Also, the ladies ESL Bible study will be continuing at the church in the fall. Please pray for this important time in the Word as they learn English as well as the Word.

OC International Students

Many hands contributed to a hearty meal served to some 300 international students. Thank you again to all those who helped in any capacity. The students were very appreciative this year. One student commented after dinner, "Now I understand what church is supposed to be!" Pray for many to

respond to the Gospel as they participate in activities offered this last month of the season.

Our Members on Mission

Thank you to Eli for joining the crew to weed and trim the yard at Susie Walters'. It was a great blessing to have youth and seniors working together.

Mike Schofield began collecting Bibles in good condition for **Mission Cry**. Look for marked boxes.

Be sure to welcome Jessica and Will Wiley this first Sunday while they are here visiting family and friends to celebrate their 1st wedding anniversary! Pray for his last semester at Southern Seminary and for God to direct what's next for them in preparation for foreign missions.

Emely and the Cru team will be welcoming students back to SU for the fall semester.

Mission Opportunities

On Tuesday, August 27, we will again provide large games, sweet treats and cold water to welcome new 3rd graders and their families to East Salisbury Elementary. Many hands are needed to serve that evening.

Mission Team

Community missions emphasis – June through August

Thank you Pastor Andrew for the challenge Wednesday night for each of us to pray for a specific person to respond to the Gospel. Please encourage one another to share stories of hope in every opportunity this summer!

REMEMBER IN PRAYERMedical Needs

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

Long-Term Needs

- Brandt, John – Chron’s disease
- Cheek, Virginia – Genesis
- 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.)



We extend our deepest sympathy to George and Linda Webster and family in the death of her mother, Sue Duncan. She went to be with the Lord on July 14 at the age of 97. She was a long-time active member of Immanuel and we will miss her. The Celebration of Life ceremony was on Saturday, July 20, followed by burial and a luncheon.



There will be a Men’s Ministry Retreat on October 4-5 at the Henson Scout Reservation near Sharptown. All men and sons or grandsons (8 yrs. and up) are invited. Information sheets are in the back of the church or you can talk with Mike Law.

‘Twas the Night Before School Starts

‘Twas the night before school starts and everywhere,
Anxious students were choosing which outfit to wear.

The notebooks were laid with care in the den,
Among brand new folders, pencils and pens.

Gone swimming, gone fishing, gone playing all day,
Gone vacations and sunburns, at least until May.

Gone church camp, gone late nights, gone sleeping in,
too,
At the thought of it all, I began to feel blue.

So I dropped to my knees beside of my bed,
And prayed, “Can’t I just join the circus instead?”

The kids at my school are cruel and unfair,
Some don’t know you, Father, and what’s more, some
don’t care.

They know I’m a Christian, so they watch every move,
To see if I’ll mess up, and sometimes I do.”

Then out of the silence, I heard his reply,
I’ll be with you always, just point them to Christ.”

--Gayla Thornburgh
Saginaw Park Baptist Church
Ft. Worth, TX



*We know
that all
things work
together
for good for
those who
love God....*

Romans 8:28

VBS -- 2019



We had a fabulous week of VBS! Seventy-four students registered this year. Even though we were excited for such a big group, the numbers mean nothing on their own. VBS is great fun, but our purpose is to reach children and families with the gospel and to strengthen the faith of those who already believe. One teacher reported that on Day 2 a child said, "It's been on my mind and I've been wondering, is Jesus still on the cross?" Her question led to a class-wide gospel conversation.

We had a few unexpected hurdles during VBS and it was amazing to see our Immanuel members gather around each other to share the emotional and physical burden. "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

As we conclude this year of VBS, we thank everyone who was involved. Anyone who donated supplies, moved furniture, prayed, baked treats for **t** our teachers, taught and prepared lessons or crafts or games, offered a smile at the door, answered the phone, compiled the slideshows, ran the sound, led our staff's children every morning, took care of building problems during the week, manned a station on Celebration Sunday—every single one of you was appreciated!



AUGUST

- 4 Beverly Bohrer
- 5 Mike Cox
- 7 Charles (Corky) Simpson
- 8 Ron McKelvey
- 12 Wanda Ferrier
- 13 Owen Shockley
- 18 Joyce Simpson
Lucy Webster
Kristin Shockley
- 22 Judah Shockley
- 23 Jacob Baranowski
- 26 Jimmy Cathell
Eden Schofield
- 27 Connie Jones
Donald Terry
- 28 Betsy Jarrett
Herbert Nyoni
- 29 Laurel Morgan
Cheryl McKelvey
- 31 Dawn Moyer

