



---

**February 2020**

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

---



“Blessed is the man [or woman] who[se]...delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he [or she] meditates day and night.”

Psalm 1:1–2

The English settlements of colonial America were marked by a theology rooted in Revelation. For men like John Cotton, Thomas Hooker (a relative of Ed’s, I believe), and Thomas Shepherd, among others, the Scriptures reigned supreme. In them God revealed all that was needed to know Him and bring Him glory. God’s Word detailed human depravity, prescribed salvation’s order, described the church’s practice, dictated the limits of human reason, and served as the standard of truth.

Sadly, just as vermin stowed away aboard the Mayflower, continental rationalism soon made its way across the sea carried in the minds of new colonists such as Joseph Priestley, Experience Mayhew, and Thomas Bray. Without rejecting Revelation outright, these men sowed seeds of doubt in Scripture’s supremacy. Pointing out the innate power of reason, these men and others like them, urged their listeners to use their intellect when deciding what was right and what was wrong, while rooting theology’s purpose in virtue. Subtle changes, granted, but these developments revealed a loosening of colonial Christianity’s moorings from the harbor of orthodoxy.

In time, these changes would be temporarily reversed as God poured out His Spirit in the eighteenth-century revival we remember today as the Great

Awakening, followed by the Second in the subsequent century. And while there have not been documented revivals on the scale of these early events, every generation since has seen a period of heightened spiritual sensitivity. Sadly, these movements have not stemmed the tide; they have only served to slow its advance.

Today, as is abundantly clear, our society no longer views Revelation to be of any supreme significance. While post-modernity’s pluralism ensures that we not judge another’s values, it definitely denies the existence of any ultimate truth or source for the same. If recent relativism argues anything definitive, it is that the individual look within, to decide for oneself, and to go with what feels right. Based upon such “reasoning” is it any wonder that we are surrounded by a sea of humanity being tossed here and there by every wind of teaching (Eph. 4:14).

Immanuel, while we differ significantly from our country’s first settlers, we must share their high regard for God’s Word! If we turn to human intuition, if we lean on our world’s philosophies, then we will find ourselves frustrated to the point of madness, for the world’s wisdom is foolishness (1 Cor 3:19). Instead, let us make God’s eternal and unchanging Word our foundation. For then, and only then, may we be blessed!

Rejoice!  
Pastor Andrew

**COFFEE AVAILABLE**

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

## GREETERS SCHEDULE

Faye Parker  
JoAn Vollkommer  
Faye Brittingham

NOTE: Please alternate door positions weekly.

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

There will be a Men's Ministry Breakfast on Saturday, February 22, followed by a discussion on The Discipline of Ministry. All men are invited.

### WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Dinner will be served at 5:30. Be sure to sign up for the dinner and to take a turn in providing a dessert. The Discipleship class, Youth, RAs, GAs and Mission Friends will begin at 6:15.

Menus for the month are listed below:

- Feb. 5 – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas
- 12 – Baked ziti, salad
- 19 – Pork tenderloin, roasted potatoes, broccoli
- 26 – Chicken Cacciatore over rice, green beans



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

### THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our many Greeters opening doors and making folks feel welcome. Thank you to our Ushers providing for needs within the Sanctuary. Thank you to the Safety Team members serving every Sunday morning, keeping a watchful eye on our grounds and ensuring a safe environment for our children.

Thank you to our members for appreciating the more visible role of a few to reassure those attending that we pray for safety, lock doors, pay attention and trust God for things beyond our control.

More than anything, we want to make Immanuel a place where we do everything in love and visitors receive a warm welcome.

### \*\*\*IMMANUEL ON MISSION\*\*\*

Through the winter months and Christmas season, we emphasize international missions with videos illustrating the ongoing work in faraway places supported by our giving. I was so encouraged to hear of the exciting things that have happened in just the last twenty years as James and Sarah shared with us at year's end. It's hard to appreciate such a monumental task, especially among the many people of South Asia where our missionaries live today. We are a part of engaging people groups there that were without believers and no known work among them until very recently. I'm so thankful that we are giving generously, praying faithfully and embracing God's mission to the world that "a great multitude from every nation and all tribes" will worship around the throne forever. (Revelation 7:9) May we continue to seek opportunities to reach the lost in our own families and community in this coming year, trusting God is up to much!

### WMU

#### Mali People Group

The Mali people are our church adopted unreached people. Please pray for them to come to salvation through Jesus Christ!!

### Ladies' Luncheon



WMU would like to thank all the ladies who attended "Women in the Word" on January 25. It was a delightful time of fellowship, Bible teachings, and a luncheon. Thank you, Paula, Melinda and Kristin for guiding and encouraging us to dig deeper into the WORD.

**World Hunger**

The next date for turning in your Bread Banks is April.12. If you do not have one, consider joining this mission. It's so easy to just clean out your coin purse periodically and drop them in the bank. And remember that every cent goes to this gospel mission. Our offering in the January collection totaled \$283.41. Empty bread banks are available in the back of the sanctuary.

**Lottie Moon Offering**

Thank you to all who helped us attain and exceed our goal. The amount given as of this writing is \$8,446.71. Praise the Lord!

Our Mission Partners**James and Sarah Morgan (IMB)**

Notes about the history of modern missions and their team at work: "At the Amsterdam conference in 2000 a database was created to list and keep track of all the people groups of the world. At that time, they had about 12,658 PGs (people groups) in the world. About 6,000 (about half) of these PGs were UPGs (unreached people groups-meaning less than 2% evangelical Christian). Of these 6,000 UPGs, about half of them, about 3,000, were UUPGs (unengaged unreached people groups-meaning that there are no known believers and no known work among the PG). Side note-most of these 6,000 UPGs and UUPGs were located in South Asia.

Our team, specifically in the last year, helped engage 4 of the 20 UUPGs that are in our area! Five others are getting close to being engaged, as we know of 1 or 2 believers among them and are working to disciple and help get more work going on among them. Engaging is only the beginning, but it IS the beginning! So incredibly exciting! People are coming to Christ and PGs are being engaged! It's not anything special about us; it is God working through His people. He is the one that saves! But we couldn't be here to do our part if you didn't give to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering and to the Cooperative Program. YOU are why over 3,000 M's are able to be all over the world and how in the last 20 years 2,500 UUPGs were engaged for the very first time! Thank you!!

As we start year 2020, we are focusing on engaging these last 16 UUPGs that we have been assigned.

Please pray for open doors, open hearts, for partners that are helping, and for God's name to be praised and glorified throughout this region!"

**Paul and Laurel Morgan (Wycliffe)**

Please pray for a new house in Isiro for their growing family and as they make plans to return to Congo. Give thanks for the many new projects in that area and the publication of several New Testaments!

**East Salisbury School**

Please pray for the students and staff during the long winter months. The team would like to do something to encourage the staff, so pray for inspiration for Sara and our mission team.

**Free English Salisbury (ESL)**

The Winter/Spring ESL semester has begun. Our first week was crazy with new students beginning classes for the first time and returning students excited to continue their endeavor to learn English again. Please pray for this ministry as we are out growing our space and last semester had to turn families away. Please pray for ESL leadership; pray for us to have wisdom. We have needed to make some hard decisions about numbers of students and children in the space we currently have at Providence. We would like to invite other churches to join in to reach these people, so pray for us as we begin important dialogue with a couple of our sister churches. Pray for those students and their families that are continuing or beginning for the first time this semester. We desire to fully trust the Lord to supply our every need in this ministry. Our Lord has no limit on His resources! We covet your prayers.

Our Members on Mission

The team would like to encourage the many quietly at work in our community, so please share your praise and thanks for the work God is doing among us!

**Mission Cry**

Christian Resources International has sent over \$350 million in Bibles and Christian books to over 175 Nations around the world. When you donate Bibles, commentaries, and Christian books, you are becoming a book missionary and aligning yourself with the mission, letting the world hear your Mission Cry! Please consider asking family and friends to

donate gently used Bibles, study materials and books during the winter drive through March 14. Boxes are located in the Fellowship Hall and back of the Sanctuary.

## YOUTH RETREAT



On January 12, fourteen of us piled into two mini-vans and made our way to Skycroft, the Baptist Conference Center, in Middletown, Maryland. Challenged by our speaker, James Choi, we spent the weekend on the mountain asking ourselves who Jesus is. We examined Scripture together and saw how Jesus is the center of history, scripture, salvation, and our church. It was a time of great encouragement and challenge. We spent many hours in our church group time talking about what we had learned and thinking about the greatness of Jesus and how that affects us.

As a group, we faced some fun team challenges and played many games. We sang, prayed for one another, and even cried together (or what we called “had emotional outbursts with one another”).

I am so very encouraged to see God growing our youth in numbers, but most importantly growing their love and understanding of who God is!  
Rejoice! Melinda



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Medical Needs

Bounds, Amy  
Baker, Penny (Walt's sister)  
Bratten, Bill  
Dohr, Maureen  
Jordan, Kevin – (Judy's b.-in-law)  
Jordan, Maryanne – (Judy's sister)  
Simpson, Joyce  
Stimson, Marlyn

### Long-Term Needs

Cheek, Virginia – Genesis  
Muenster, Cindy  
Powell, Missy  
Straub, Marge – Wicomico N. H.



## FEBRUARY

- 2 James Moyer
- 6 Lyle Jarrett
- 14 Walter Agnor
- 19 Connie Banks  
Emely Martin
- 21 Caleb Morgan  
Johanne Nibblett
- 23 Jesse Baranowski
- 25 Paul Ferrier
- 26 William Nibblett, Jr.
- 28 Erma Sheats

REMEMBER THE  
**SABBATH DAY**  
BY KEEPING IT **HOLY.**  
EXODUS 20:8

