



March 2020

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



Over the course of history, the church has wrestled with many things. In her infancy, a principal concern regarded Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?” (Luke 9:20). As a man who called God His Father (John 8:54), Christ’s claims were troubling to say the least. For a people living in Mt. Sinai’s shadow and whose identity was defined by God’s covenantal dictates, Jesus’ words attacked more than just Israel’s God’s character; they called into question the nation’s entire worldview. For how could the God who had revealed Himself to be one (Deut 6:4) have a Son? And if He did, how did that change His command to “love [Him] with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deut 6:5)? Did it change the command? Could a God who’d said He was an unchanging monad suddenly become a Father? And if so, what did this mean for His character? More foundationally, if this God could change, might not His ethical expectations and His salvific standards follow suit?

All these concerns, among others, faced those who heard the Nazarene Carpenter preach. And yet, despite the earth shattering, worldview collapsing nature of His claims, “No one ever spoke the way this man [did]” (John 7:46). He spoke with authority and all who heard Him were amazed (Matt 7:29). Thus, in the aftermath of His death and claimed resurrection, His followers sought to wrap their minds around all that He had said.

In this task, their primary resource was the Scripture, the Old Testament, coupled with all they had seen

and heard. Thus, in a manner emulating Christ’s Emmaus road lecture, the Church set about answering their Savior’s question, “Who do you say that I am?” with the Holy Spirit inspired result being the fourfold Gospel, collection of epistles, and Revelation which we know as the New Testament.

Immanuel, our possession of God’s Word contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments is a blessing we cannot measure. Our Bibles are God’s revelation of Himself. The texts we possess are His chosen means of communicating His infinite character to His finite creatures. We have no one to blame but ourselves if on the Day of Judgment, we have no answer to Christ’s question, “Who do you say that I am?”

May we daily study the Word of God to know the God of the Word.

Rejoice!
Pastor Andrew



Coffee Fellowship

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

THANK YOU

Walt and Sylvia Scarborough express their appreciation for the prayers and support during the illness and death of his sister, Penny Baker. We are grateful to be part of a caring church.

GREETERS SCHEDULE

Linda Lewis
Brenda Pearson
Rory van Brackel

NOTE: Please alternate door positions weekly.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

There will be a Men's Ministry Breakfast on Saturday, March 20, followed by a discussion on the Grace of Discipline. 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:

- Mar. 4 – Chicken Alfredo over rice, squash
- 11 – Hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, tacos
- 18 – Ham, mac and cheese, vegetable
- 25 – Tacos, rice, beans



The deadline for submitting items of interest for the **April newsletter** is March 19. Please observe this deadline.

COVENANT MEETING

On Wednesday, March 4, we will have our quarterly Covenant Meeting. Please be present to hear what God has been doing in our fellowship.

LORD'S SUPPER

We will observe the Lord's Supper on Sunday, March 8. Prepare your hearts now for the meal of remembrance.

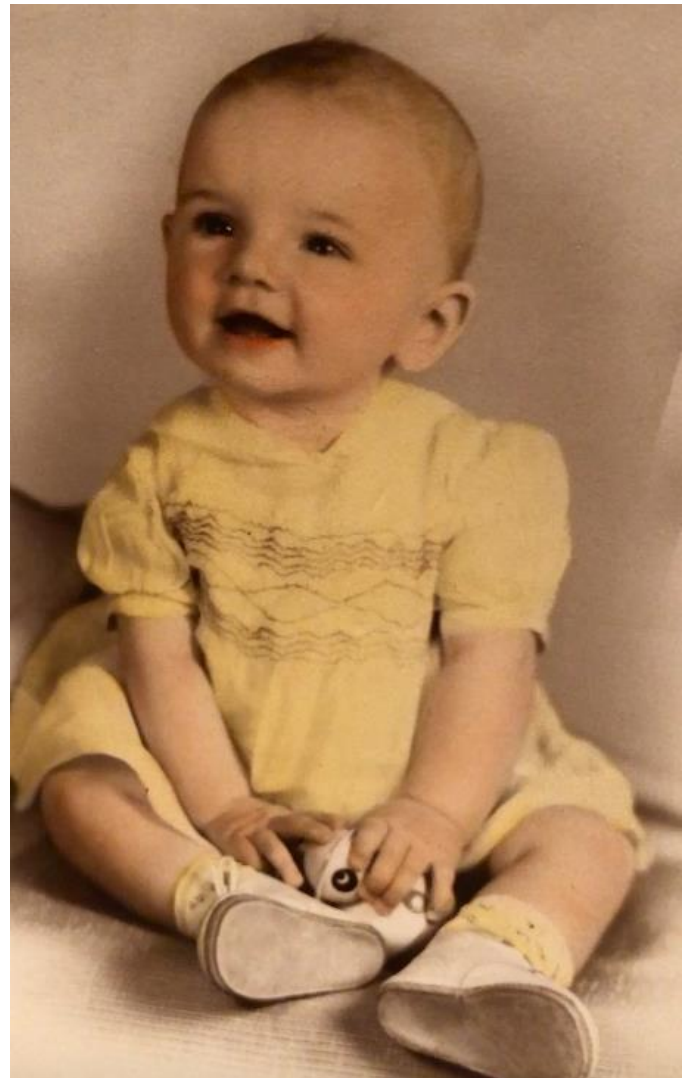
BENEVOLENCE MINISTRY

The Elders will be at the doors after worship on March 8 to receive your offerings for this ministry.



Sunday, March 15, is "Pure Water, Pure Love" Day. The Girls in Action group will present a program that will explain the need for clean water for our missionaries and the people they serve. You will have the opportunity to contribute to this program at the end of the worship time.

WHO IS THIS MEMBER??



Answer: Page 4

BABY SHOWER

All ladies are invited to a baby shower for Kati (McKelvey) Robb on March 22 at 3:00 p.m. Please join us in the fellowship hall as we celebrate God's faithfulness through the gift of life! The mom-to-be is registered on Babylist.

(<https://www.babylist.com/baby-caleb-robb>)

If you know you will be coming, text Kristin at 302-466-5016 or let her or Melinda know when you see them.

SAVE THE DATE!

This year's VBS informational meeting will be on Sunday, March 20, after the morning worship service. If you want to be a part of VBS this year, plan to be there. Lunch will be provided.

*****IMMANUEL ON MISSION*****

This month as we hear from church planters may we hear why they went, what it cost them to obey, listen to their hearts for their people and hopefully understand what led them to forsake it all to follow Jesus.

Please take the opportunity to join our North American missionaries planting churches in the United States, our territories and across Canada by contributing to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering and praying for the Gospel to reach many in this season as we give thanks for Jesus' life, death and resurrection. May we be moved to pray, to encourage, to give and to share the Gospel in our own communities too. Christ is risen; our God saves, and the Holy Spirit is at work among us! Come hear more at our Covenant family gathering this first Wednesday after dinner at 6:15 p.m. Let the mission of God to reach all people with the Gospel have us reminded, Immanuel, "it's all about the Gospel."

WMU

Mali People Group

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

Easter Offering

The Week of Prayer for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is March 1-8. The theme this year is I Corinthians 15:3-4. "*For I passed onto you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures . . .*"

God calls us to pray, give, and go!! There are still over 273 million people in North America who do not know Christ. Immanuel's goal is \$3,500. Please pray about your participation in helping to reach this mission field.

Our Mission Partners

James and Sarah (IMB)

In the part of the Maithili area that is in India there are 5UUPGs left. These groups have never had any known believers within them. Now local workers have identified them and have a plan to engage them with the Gospel for the first time. Pray for those workers that they would meet persons of peace and see new churches started from among these UUPGs.

Paul and Laurel Morgan (Wycliffe)

Paul and Laurel are preparing to return to a new house in Isiro. They are thankful that three language teams are finishing Budu-Koya, Budu-Nita and Komo translations and for the Fuliiru Bible and Lika New Testament dedication ceremonies in April.

East Salisbury School

In our faith partnership with East Salisbury School, we are praying for receptive hearts among staff members as we plan to encourage teachers again this Spring and perhaps invite them to our Easter sunrise service, breakfast and family worship service.

Free English Salisbury (ESL)

ESL continues to meet each Thursday night and children's activities and women's Bible study on Wednesday mornings, and a small class at the Y on Tuesday evenings. Pray for open hearts as the team hosts students and families for an Easter celebration next month and wisdom for the team making plans for more students in the Fall as God continues to meet every need and the program grows.

Mission Cry (CRI) Bible collection

Jason Woolford of CRI sees value in each Bible and knows how far just one copy of the Scriptures can go. On average, a book is read by 20 people during its lifecycle, he says. That means that a minimum, providing one Bible means exposing 20 people to the Gospel. But in some parts of the world it can go even farther than that. For example, “When you look at a pastor of a church in Uganda or Kenya or the Philippines, or Bangalore, India that gets a Bible from us, you’re talking about congregations of church plants [where] sometimes even the pastor doesn’t own the Bible,” Woolford says.

Please ask people to share from their bookshelves that are filled with Bibles and Christian books. Once collected and received, those materials are sent around the world, sowing God’s Word into the lives of those who cannot afford it. Please consider donating gently used Bibles and materials in the boxes provided for this year’s Bible drive.



We extend our deepest sympathy to Walt and Sylvia Scarborough in the death of his sister, Penny Baker. She passed away on February 2 after a long illness. Our prayers are with the family.

REMEMBER IN PRAYERMedical Needs

Bounds, Amy
 Bratten, Bill
 Dohr, Maureen
 Jordan, Kevin – (Judy’s b.-in-law)
 Simpson, Joyce
 Stimson, Marlyn

Long-Term Needs

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

**MARCH**

- 2 Jessica Moon
George Webster
- 3 Tabitha Morgan
Zachary Wootten
- 5 Dottie Warfield
- 7 Martha Morgan
- 16 Annie Dethloff
- 19 Leigh Ann Blades
- 23 Donald Bennett
Robert Blankenship
Gary Webster

AND THE MEMBER IS . . .

The sweet little girl on page 2 is Judy Harris. She was born in New Jersey and lived there for fifty years before moving to Salisbury. She and her late husband Ron joined our church in 2011.

Judy has two children and three grandchildren whom she adores. Also, you may have noticed her sister Maryanne and husband on our prayer list.

In the past, she worked in a restaurant and for many years in a bank in customer service. Currently she serves Immanuel as Financial Secretary as well as serving on several committees and assisting with the older children’s Sunday School class. In addition, she works three mornings a week in the church office.

In her spare time, she enjoys walking, putting puzzles together and working outside. We appreciate all she does for Immanuel and her love for the Lord and His work.

**March 7**

