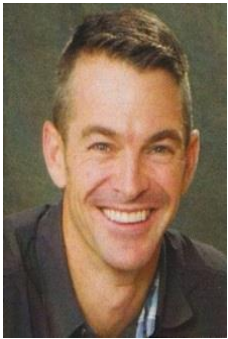




June 2020

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



“Rejoice in the Lord”

Phil 4:4–8

Immanuel, since we’ve been able to resume gathering, the word that keeps running through my mind is the word that has come to define the spirit of our church, “Rejoice!” I rejoice, as the apostle Paul urged the Philippians, “always.” And I will say it again, “Rejoice!”

While these past two months have been hard for all, we can rejoice because our God is faithful. Despite the pestilence that raged and is still present, we can rejoice because our God knew all our needs and He provided. Even though we were on lock-down in our homes, unable to be with friends and family, we can rejoice for we were never alone; our God was with us and He comforted us. And as change has come bringing new safety measures and social regulations, we can rejoice in God’s generous gift of patience and lavish display of grace.

Rejoice in the Lord, brothers and sisters, always! It is easy to say but not as easy to live because we are a people prone to worry, discouragement, and frustration. Yet, as Paul revealed in his letter, when we pray about everything, presenting our requests, concerns, confessions, and celebrations to God, His peace “which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

So Immanuel, as we return to life post lock-down, let us rejoice! Our God reigns! His kingdom is advancing! And His Church is growing. Let us fix our minds on that which is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. May we be on guard against our adversary’s efforts to make us settle for anything less than what is excellent or praiseworthy. For the God of peace is with us and He has pledged to meet all our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Rejoice!
Pastor Andrew

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

We will meet for prayer and Bible study at 6:30. For questions about children’s activities, contact Melinda.



The deadline for submitting items of interest for the **July newsletter** is June 18. Please observe this deadline.



Father’s Day
June 21

Thank You!

I want to thank you all for your many kindnesses after the passing of my Dad. We are grateful to have had a father (and grandfather) who gave us unconditional love. Although we miss him every day, we are thankful that he no longer suffers, but is at peace with his Lord.

Your prayers, cards, phone calls, and lovely flowers were such a comfort to us—especially in these times of isolation. We are so blessed to be a part of a loving and caring church. We appreciate you all so much!
In Christ,
Cindy Bennett

IMMANUEL ON MISSION

Please join the prayers for missionaries and chaplains working in this still uncertain time. We have weekly prayer requests from NAMB and daily items from IMB in this 175 days of prayer for international missions that are available online and via email. Find a partner and encourage each other with prayer for Southern Baptists seeking the unengaged and unreached people in South Asia and Sub Saharan Africa where our own folks are using technology to continue their work.

WMU

Mali People Group

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



World Hunger

The need for our participation in the World Hunger mission is more important than ever, with many people starving in these desperate times. Please bring in your Bread Banks next Sunday.

James and Sarah



We are very thankful for our partnership with BGR. Through their aid, we have been able to give food packages to those that are struggling in this prolonged season of lockdown. The governments here have given some food aid in a few of the lower income areas. We praise GOd for their help and care in this situation. Their help has been sporadic though, so we are thankful we can help families that have not received any assistance from the government.

As we are still on lockdown and not able to travel, we have continued to use video chats and calls to stay connected with our partners. We have done team fellowships, leadership meetings, accountability groups and just individual chats online. We feel restricted, but the Spirit is still moving. Due to families doing weekly fellowships in their homes, as single family units, some unbelieving family members have come to faith. Praise GOd for this new life! And due to not being able to travel, leaders are studying scripture more with those they are mentoring, using group chats where everyone can share with the others the things they are learning. Praise GOd for the good He's bringing about in this time of a terrible pandemic!

Paul and Laurel

Praises: Emma finished kindergarten and Noah finished second grade. They had some special celebrations as a family. Everyone is very proud! They have been very encouraged to be working with a new person, collaborating to prepare materials for teaching basic hermeneutics and exegesis to rural pastors. Their last term in Isiro grew a desire to be more directly involved with the Scripture

Engagement aspect of their ministry, and this new person has a similar vision. We're also thankful for continued email contact with Martin Kangonyesi, the Zande translation consultant-in-training that Paul is mentoring.

Their visa expired on May 14 and it appears that the Congo Embassy in the US is not performing its normal functions. It's strange to not even have an idea for a timeline of when they can go back. In all of this, they are confident in the Lord who knows all things and trust in Him. Continue to pray for them.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Medical Needs

Bounds, Amy
Bratten, Bill
Jordan, Kevin
Simpson, Joyce
Stimson, Marlyn

Long-Term Needs

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

YOUTH UPDATE

My heart is so full! Not only did we get to worship together last Sunday as a church family, but we even were able to meet together Wednesday night as a youth group for the first time.

When we were first quarantined in March, I remember thinking how thankful I was that our kids were older and I wasn't trying to get used to a new toddler schedule at home, but as time went on, I came to realize that teenagers were possibly struggling the most. At this exciting age, friendships and social interactions are so important!

Those of you who know me well, know that technology is not one of my strongpoints, so when I decided to try and have a youth Zoom meeting, it felt a bit overwhelming. After a practice round with a few of the girls, I was sure that it was the right thing to do. Alena and I went to the church and set up the computer in the youth room. The bright green walls somehow made it feel more like our regular time together. As face after face appeared on the screen,

e all began to get comfortable and had a great night catching up with each other. The next week, we began a new Bible study on Malachi and even played a game of Scattergories. Two hours flew by!

I am so very thankful for the use of technology in these unprecedented times and circumstances, but nothing can replace actual time together, so when the elders agreed that the youth could meet this week, we were thrilled. Yes, it was a little strange to be sitting in chairs six feet apart, and it was a little chilly with the windows open. We missed our usual weekly ping pong game and seeing each other's smiles because they were hidden behind masks, but we studied God's Word together and played a fun game. We plan to meet weekly throughout the summer.

Please pray for our youth! God has blessed our church with some very mature (most of the time 😊), fun-loving, kind, and thoughtful young men and women, who are growing in the LORD.



JUNE

- 5 Tommy Jarrett
- 8 Patricia Christiana
- 13 Aracelia Monds
- 14 Jonathan Powell
- 19 Aida Terry
- 20 Sylvia Scarborough
- 22 Daxton Blades
- 24 Vica Brittingham
James Moore
Shirley Manning
- 25 Rory van Brackel
- 27 Brenda Pearson

HOMEBOUND

Nancy Lambert and Heather van Brackel have expressed the desire for Immanuel to reach out to those who are not only homebound but are not

permitted to have visitors. Please send a card, note, or call those listed on page 31 of the directory.

The members listed below do not have access to a phone:

Virginia Cheek	Marge Straub
Genesis	Wicomico N. H.
Rm. 408	Rm. 300
200 Civic Ave	900 Booth St.
Salisbury, MD 21804.	Salisbury, MD 21801

Cindy Muenster
105 S. Saratoga St.
Salisbury, MD 21804

IMMANUEL GRADUATES



GAVIN SHOCKLEY

Gavin is a home-schooled graduate, son of Brian and Kristin Shockley. His hobbies are art (especially drawing), origami, listening to music, Lego design and biking for exercise. Gavin is an introvert. He loves working the sound board at church because it gives him a quiet place to serve that uses his talents.

He will be living on campus at Garrett College in McHenry, MD, majoring in graphic design. He

hopes to eventually work in advertisement or web/game design.



BRIANNA STEVENSON

Brianna is the daughter of Heather Moon and the granddaughter of Jeff and Lisa Lang. She is a graduate of Wicomico High School. She will be attending Frostburg State University, pursuing a degree in criminal justice and sociology.

Many are aware of her passion for running track and she has been chosen to run on the Frostburg State Track Team.

Brianna works two jobs and spends any free time training.

May God bless Gavin and Brianna as they take this next step in pursuing their dreams.



