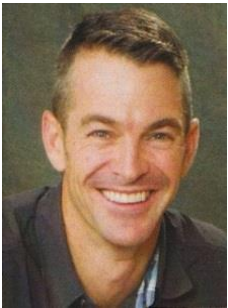




July 2020

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



“By this all men will know that
you are my disciples, if you love
one another.”
John 13:35

Six months ago, if I’d heard the word “Corona” the first thing that would have come to mind was Tony Romo’s Super Bowl commercials for the Mexican beverage of the same name. And six months ago, if I’d heard the names Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd, I could not have picked them out of a crowd. How times have changed.

Today, there are few words more familiar than that which describes the virus, CDC head Dr. Robert Redfield recently described as bringing our country “to its knees.” And there are few names more trending than those given above whose tragic deaths sparked waves of protests the world over. Each of these instances in their own right would have made any nation reel, but the fact that they have overlapped has overwhelmed us.

For many, their emotions are exhausted, their savings drained, and their future bleak. The virus has killed more than just family and friends. It has taken away their joy in the present and hope for tomorrow. For others, they are angry. The realization of racism’s continuing presence in any form has been fuel on their fires of discontentment and they are primed to push back against all opposition, real or perceived. Put simply, we live in unstable days.

And Immanuel, as Christ’s church, we are not immune to the emotions of the moment. We have not been spared the hurt and loss that has defined the year to date. Our lives have not been sheltered from the virus’ effect or the racism expressed. We are living in these unstable days like everyone else. But, while our circumstances differ little, our responses ought to differ much!

Speaking to His disciples in what was their last supper together, Jesus delivered “a new command...love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another” (John 13:34). While promising them a future marked by trouble and defined by suffering, Jesus directed His disciples to stand out, not by their commitment to His cause, although that was important as earlier He had declared that “if anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matt 16:24). Neither were His followers to be known by their love for the lost, although that too was important as His parable of the Good Samaritan explained (Luke 10:27–28). On this occasion, Jesus said that “all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35).

Immanuel, may this be what sets us apart from all others during these difficult days. May grace color all that we say. May love be the fragrance we leave behind. May the watching world, scrutinizing our witness, know that we are Christians by our love for one other.

Rejoice!
Pastor Andrew



Sunday Worship Guidelines

As we worship together, remember our safety precautions...

- everyone wear their masks
- the doors will open 15 minutes before the 11:00 am service begins.
- seating will follow social distancing guidelines.



The service will be available on 92.9 FM in the parking lot and online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelBaptistChurchSalisbury>



The church office is open for business on **Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 1:30.**

Sunday School

We are still unable to meet in person for Sunday School. Classes are available using Zoom. The classes are going well and we'd love for you to join a class. It's a great way to study God's word and to keep in touch with your family at Immanuel.

Classes:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Quinn Morgan | - Sunday at 9:00 a.m. |
| Mike Law | - Sunday at 9:00 a.m. |
| Paula Law | - Thursday at 4:00 p.m. |

Just contact the teacher and they'll help you get set up!

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

July 1st, at 6:30, will be our last prayer and Bible study with RA, GA and Youth activities. Starting July 22nd we will have 4 weeks of family Bible study at 6:30. Melinda will be in touch with the Youth on planned activities for the summer.

IMMANUEL ON MISSION

GA News

The Girls in Action group thanks you for your generous support of the "Pure Water, Pure Love" offering even though we were unable to do our program in March. Donations of \$600.00 have been received. Your support of this program is especially important because of the virus that is affecting so many countries. Thank you!

Sylvia, Pat and girls

Pure Water, Pure Love has a 3-fold mission: supply missionaries with water filters, provide the people they serve with wells that offer clean water, and supply missions teams with water filters for use on short-term mission trips

WMU

World Hunger

Our church has received \$553.41 dollars so far this year for the World Hunger Mission. If you would like to turn in your bread bank, we will be sure to get it counted and sent on to this important mission to help people starving in these desperate times. You may also give to this mission by putting your donation in the offering plate with the designation of "World Hunger" on your offering envelope or your check.



Mali People Group

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

Annie Armstrong North American Missions

Immanuel has collected \$5,085.10 towards North American Missions and will collect through the end of July. We would like to spotlight a missionary to Puerto Rico as an example of how this money is working in real lives in North America. If you're interested in what is happening with North American Missions, information is available at AnnieArmstrong.com.



Jorge, Rebeca and family in Comerio, Puerto Rico

Comerio is a small town of about 22,000 people tucked into the southwest mountains of Puerto Rico. Jorge Santiago grew up there. "I'd had an addiction problem since I was very young. I left Puerto Rico for the United States at age 24, trying to find a solution," says Jorge. In 2012, after more than a decade of drug addiction, God rescued Jorge from his sin and gave him new life in Christ and freedom from addiction. Jorge says, "I fell in love with the Word of God." And that love for the Word spurred Jorge to love people sacrificially. In 2017, he and his family knew God wanted them to move back to Jorge's home.

September 20, 2017, marked a difficult day in the life of Comerio. It was on that day Hurricane Maria hit. The storm blindsided the city; the people didn't realize the magnitude of the hurricane that was coming. Jorge and his family had just moved to Comerio. After Maria hit, Jorge and Rebeca found themselves doing everything they could to help people. "Rebeca and I were serving non-stop in the community. This is what God used to show [our] neighbors how Christian people live out their lives," says Jorge. They were demonstrating the gospel

through compassion, and by the time they presented the community with the Word of God, people were ready to hear and believe. Jorge says, "God prepared their hearts even before we got there."

By March 2018, they planted a new church, One Church Comerio. Long after Hurricane Maria, cleanup and repairs continue, and Jorge sees how God is knitting lives together through the devastation. Jorge is also utilizing Southern Baptist Send Relief volunteers guided by a carpenter the city provides to lead construction. Additionally, One Church Comerio is working on a new program called Water to My House, providing water system tanks to the people of Comerio.

Financially, Jorge and Rebeca cite the funds given to them through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® as their only source of income. "The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering has played a big role in our calling. It would not be the same without the offering," says Jorge.

Remember church planters like Jorge and Rebeca when you give to the offering.

(The full article is in June's Mission Mosaic)

Paul and Laurel

Hello! We hope that you are doing well and clinging to the Lord through this crazy time! Thanks as always for your prayers for us!

Praise:

--Last month, we heard back from the immigration office in Congo and were told that we could return even with expired visas.

--Praise God that Paul has found several ways to stay involved remotely. Paul is working on a second installment of a Translation Principles training for the Zande translation team that they will work through together via the internet.

--We continue to be so thankful to God that we can stay in this missionary house. It is such a blessing to have this place to stay when so many things are changing around us.

--Praise God that we've been able to successfully wire money via Western Union to pay for our house expenses in Isiro.

--I just wanted to let you know that I just got a phone call from the people loaning us our minivan. They said that we can now keep it until December because

the other family that had reserved it is unable to travel back to the US. Praise God for providing for our needs again!

Prayer Requests:

--Continue praying for our family as we are in limbo. Wycliffe USA is not permitting anyone to return until after July 31 and even after that there are still many obstacles that need to be lifted. We personally feel like we need for Uganda to be open in order for our family to return.

--When Paul left our new house in Isiro, there were still projects needing to be completed. Well...they are still not completed. The city water has been cut off so our workers don't have any water at the house. And I doubt any progress will be made until we return. Also, the rain water floods the yard because there is no drainage and no gutters installed. And the water tank has not been completed. It's just hard to feel split between two worlds. Let's pray for miraculous progress!

James and Sarah

We have recently entered into phase 1 of 3 of trying to open things back up, even though cases are continuing to climb. In this first phase, we are still not allowed to travel outside our district, so we are continuing to push forward through long distance coaching and discipling. Personally, we've been trying to get out more beyond our immediate neighborhood to find opportunities to share the Good News. There are a lot of people, all around the world, struggling because of the effects of covid-19. Thank you for continuing to pray for the people here. Adding to all this, our monsoon season has just started, which usually brings flooding to a lot of areas we are working in.

Please pray, that in these hard times, His church will shine bright.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Medical Needs

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

Long-Term Needs

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

HOMEBOUND

We have many during this pandemic that are unable to attend services. The homebound list is on page 31 of the directory. There are many active members who aren't on this list that cannot be with us yet. Please pray for these brothers and sisters and send a card, note, or call. Lift someone's spirit today!

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

Marge Straub
Wicomico N. H.
Rm. 300
900 Booth St.
Salisbury,

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

MD 21801



We extend our deepest sympathy to Bill & Johanne Nibblett and their family. Bill's father, Sam Nibblett, passed away on Wednesday, June 10. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. A service was held June 16. Our prayers are with the family.

We are saddened at the passing of our long-time member Virginia Cheek. She taught several Sunday School classes at our church. She passed on June 13 while at Genesis from a long-term illness. She will be missed by her church family.

Cancellations

We want to inform you that we have officially decided not to have Vacation Bible School this summer. Likewise, we are not needed for the O.C. International Dinner this year because of the limited number of international students.



JULY

- 2 Alena Morgan
- 3 James Morgan
- 7 Rick Dethloff
- 8 Mike Law
Andrew Morgan
Melinda Morgan
Brianna Stevenson
- 9 Emma Morgan
- 10 Marge Straub
- 11 Patricia Edwards
- 14 Bob Shores
Grace Wilkins
- 15 Jill Braungart
- 16 Linda Ziegler
- 18 John Brenner
- 21 Will Wiley
- 27 Edith Nairne
- 28 Cindy Bennett
Madelyn Schockley
- 30 Lisa Lang
- 31 Nancy Lambert



Immanuel's website can be found at www.immanuelby.org. Sermons since 2015 can be found there in audio format. Previous issues of the **Voice** can be found under the "Events" tab.

Immanuel also has a Facebook page where you can watch the sermon each week. All previous sermons are still there since the pastor began recording them.



Thank you for continuing to support the church and its missions. Tithing has remained steady and we have raised \$5,085.10 for Annie Armstrong North American Missions. We also have raised \$600.00 towards the Pure Water Pure Love Mission.

Thanks also to those who are giving to Immanuel's Building Fund. This fund is used for the unbudgeted expenses of our facilities. The trustees have been doing a great job with maintenance and improvements, things like the new roof and the paving of the parking lot. This work is possible because of the Building Fund that was started many years ago. If you would like to donate, just note "Building Fund" on you check or tithing envelope.

If you would like to see the current Financial Statement, it will be available in the back of the sanctuary and in the office. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Baranowski at 410-430-7910.



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