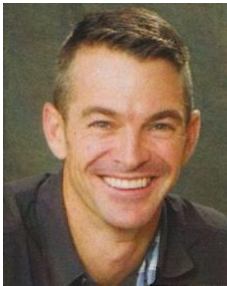




May 2021

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



“Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal
life.”

John 6:68

In the wake of recent events, the “woke” movement has garnered even greater attention. Describing a state of awareness and concern for matters of social and racial injustice, the “woke” are those no longer willing to accept our world’s present expressions of inequality. They are not content to turn a blind eye when the poor are exploited, the marginalized manipulated, and the minority oppressed. The “woke” are committed to addressing social and racial wrongs, and rightly so.

We live in a world marked by brokenness and pain. The reality of human depravity is not unique to any one culture, thus the need to be “woke” confronts us all, particularly the Church. When asked about the one thing God desired above all others, Jesus answered simply, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind ... And ... Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt 22:38 – 39). It is hard to live this out if we’re turning a blind eye to cultural inequality and injustice. It is hard to square Jesus’ answer with racial bias and ethnic insensitivity, because we certainly don’t treat ourselves to such “love,” do we? Church, we need to be “woke” to sin’s many and varied expressions.

We also need to be alert to the potentially destructive ends of this state of awareness. When being “woke”

leads to unqualified historical revision, blanket reallocation of resources, coupled with the untested restructuring of society, we are in danger of causing the very thing to which we are supposedly “woke”. We cannot allow our sense of injustice and our perspective of inequality to be the standard against which right and wrong are judged, because we aren’t consistent, nor are we impartial. We need a universal measure of truth and justice to guide our efforts and ensure that that to which we are “woke” is, in fact, injustice and inequality, and not just our discontent and injured pride at being told, “No.”

Immanuel, if the thought of being “woke” seems so complicated and confusing that you just want to go back to sleep, don’t. Look to Jesus. He alone has the words of eternal life (John 6:68). Like Peter before us, may we look to the Word of Life and “believe and know that [He is] the Holy One of God” (John 6:69).

Rejoice!
Pastor Andrew



May 31 – Memorial Day ~ Office Closed



Sunday Worship

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Worship

The 11:00 service will be available online at:

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

Tuesday Morning

Everyone is invited to join us in prayer Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. in Immanuel's prayer room. If you would like to join by zoom, contact the pastor for an invitation e-mail.



WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

6:30 p.m. – Youth Group, RA's, GA's & Bible Study

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Walt Scarborough is facilitating Ray Vander Laan's *The Path to the Cross* from Right Now Media. Discover how the intense devotion and passionate faith of his people prepares the way for Jesus and his ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the cross. If you miss a session, you can watch this series on Right Now Media.

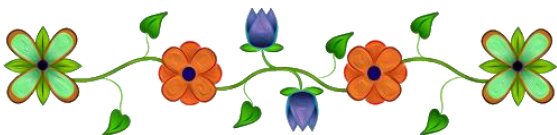
May 9 – Mother's Day



May 12 – 1:30 p.m. Women in the Word class

May 26 - End of spring church discipleship classes
Stay tuned for summer discipleship plans.

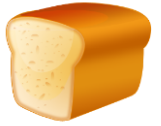
May 27 – 4:00 & 7:00 p.m. Women in the Word Zoom



IMMANUEL ON MISSION

Bread Banks for Global Hunger Relief

We collected bread banks for Global Hunger Relief in April. We received **\$340.50** this quarter and a total of \$718.00 for 2021. Thank you for your support!



There are empty banks available in the sanctuary for anyone interested in participating.



Annie Armstrong supports mission efforts in North America, supporting Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Canada, the United States, and its territories. Immanuel's 2021 goal is **\$3,500**. To date Immanuel has collected **\$4,093.80**. Thanks to all for helping meet and exceed this goal!

Mali People Group

This is a reminder to pray for missionaries, believers, and unbelievers of the Mali People Group.

The Mali people we adopted live in Rajasthan, India where James & Sarah used to live. This month, let us intentionally pray that local churches would be burdened to reach out to the Mali that live around them.

FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

As the days get longer and the temps warmer with more sunshine, I'm usually more ambitious but this year more prayerful. I think it's the time spent closer to home for more than a year and so many things to be concerned about. I find peace as I allow God to shape my worries and concerns into prayers with thanks for the good work continuing to change lives now and forever. Wisdom provides a very different lens to view the disturbing trends in our culture and filter for so many confusing messages in the media. That the church continues to bring light into dark

places here, across the nation and around the world fills me with joy because a sovereign God promises that we will soon celebrate with people many and varied. I so want to be a believer that cannot stop speaking about what God is doing, ready to give an answer for the hope that I have now and forever. So, I'm asking the Spirit of God to come and move in a more powerful way in us, through us and among us at Immanuel that we may listen to others, ask good questions and learn from one another how to share the Gospel in every opportunity. Then may we pray with hope and expectation trusting God to do the much more than we ask, think, or imagine even as the Spirit works gently and deeply within each one of us first. God bless you and keep you on mission!

~ Heather

Our Mission Partners

Paul & Laurel (Wycliffe)



Hello from Isiro! The rains have returned, washing the dust out of the air, and ushering in the planting season. We hope this finds you enjoying the first glimpses of Spring and feeling some sun on your faces! Thank you so much for praying! One morning this week, Paul went into the office to begin helping the Mangbetu team prepare the four Gospels for publication. It is an exciting moment for this project, which has experienced setback after setback over the years—even just Tuesday morning things almost ground to a halt. There were supposed to be five people present, but one of the translators was hospitalized due to a chemical burn. Thankfully, he is almost better. Monday night, two others received news of funerals that they needed to attend, and the director (photo above) was bitten by a snake! The

morning after, he took off the tourniquet and made it to the office to work with Paul on preparing these technical checks. Wow! In the coming months, the Mangbetu team hope to make a major alphabet change, and then edit all of the Gospels so that they can be distributed in print and audio format. We can also continue praying for the Zande team. One of the translators had to be let go, and now the team needs wisdom as they regroup and catch up with the delays this has inevitably caused. One of Paul's smaller roles is helping coordinate a song recording project in a distant town among the Fuliiru people. In the last month, we have seen great progress in our communication with the Fuliiru team as they work to record Scripture songs. Praise God! Please continue to pray that this team will be able to produce quality songs that will help the community memorize and apply Scripture. In other big news, Faith Comes By Hearing finished recording five New Testament translations in our region last month! In addition, we continue to be encouraged as we tell the stories of Genesis at a local church. And recently, we also heard that the local Bible translation agency is planning two storying projects that should begin next year. Please pray that all the pieces come together for this to happen in our town!



Noah, Emma & Caleb

The Christian Shelter

"This shelter was planned, built & is provided for by... God through His people."

Food items such as coffee, sugar, and assorted spices were purchased and delivered to the shelter on behalf of Immanuel in April. We also took several carloads of unwanted items to HALO for donation, as the

clothing ministry is going to close for a few months. The Shelter was provided a grant to do structural work on the building, including the addition of heaters and replacing the floor.

Please continue to pray for the shelter as it receives no governmental financial support. Its support is from local churches, Christian groups, businesses, and civic organizations. Pray also for the employees as they minister to guests, who are working for a lasting change, as they are shown the love of God.

Faith Partner ~ East Salisbury School

Thank you, Immanuel, for pitching in to make the "Teacher Appreciation" gifts for East Salisbury! A special thanks to the GA's for coloring the cards, the youth for packing the jars, and the Aurelio's for making the beautiful, beaded bookmarks.

The jars will be delivered the first week in May in time for Teacher Appreciation Week.

Remember to keep the staff, teachers, and students in your prayers as they finish up this challenging school year.



We extend our deepest sympathy to Eden & Mike Schofield and their family on the loss of her mother, Nancy Chapman, who went to be with the Lord on April 13, 2021. A celebration of life will be held at Oak Ridge Baptist Church on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

Skycroft Youth Camp



Skycroft is hosting Crossings Student Camp this summer, a youth camp program, previously called ReCharge. Crossings at Skycroft is a summer camp experience for youth that is focused on keeping the Gospel front and center. It is located in Middletown, MD.

Our youth are very excited about being able to attend this year. We anticipate a good size group that Melinda and Pastor Andrew will chaperone for the week of June 27 - July 2. Depending on the size of the group, we may have to rent a van for the week. If you would like to help with the cost of this trip, please mark your donation to "Youth Camp" and put in the offering plate.

We thank the church for its support of our youth and covet your prayers for the safety of the trip and that all involved will grow in their relationship with our Lord Jesus.



We are asking for your support and cooperation to no longer park on the grass areas. Thank you!



Graduates – If a member of your family will graduate this year, please let the office know the name, relationship to you, high school or college and future plans, so that we may publish their accomplishment in the June Voice.



On May 1st ground maintenance work day you may bring your own equipment if you choose. It will start at 9:00. If it should rain on that day, May 22 will be our rain date. Also, on that date we will have a paint party inside the fellowship hall. We hope all our volunteers will be able to come and enjoy the day.



For those interested in using the on-line giving platform. which allows your tithing deposit to go directly to the church account and we still record it on your yearly financial statement. The online platform allows you to give using a credit card or a checking account. To give online, go to the www.immanuelshy.org website. On the bottom right of the page is a “Give Online” tab. It opens a page that says, “Click here to give.” It will then ask the amount, frequency, date to give and where the money should be designated, i.e. – Tithes, missions, etc. Click “Select” then “Next” and a contact page will open. This is where you enter your personal information and either credit card or bank information. Then click “Finish.”



- 3 Maryln Stimson
- 6 Quinn Morgan
- 8 Dee Ward
- 9 Beth Bratten
- 11 Faye Parker
- 13 Hope D’Agostino
- 16 A.J. Kellam
- 17 Ed Hooker
- Joan Phillips
- 18 Heather Moon
- 20 Isaac Dethloff
- 25 Hannah Van Zandt



The deadline for submitting items of interest for the **June newsletter** is **May 24**. Please observe this deadline.

COFFEE AVAILABLE

Coffee is available in the Fellowship Hall before Sunday School **every Sunday**. Please help yourself!

