



# The Immanuel Light

*For the Living of These Days*

MARCH 2022

VOL. 14 No. 3

## Celebrating the Arts of Immanuel Sunday, March 27, 2022

Have you discovered creative talents at Immanuel that surprised you? On Sunday, March 27, you will have excellent opportunities to enjoy and learn about the creative talents among our church family members.

During the morning worship service, the church choir along with singers from the Concert Chorale of Nashville will sing portions of Haydn's *Creation*. They will be accompanied by the Chamber Orchestra and organ. Pastor Steven will also lead in this time of worship.

That Sunday afternoon from 3:00 to 5:00, adults, youth and children are invited to exhibit and view art such as painting, drawing, photography, needlework, weaving, woodworking, and writing. Musicians of all ages will also perform.

Exhibits will be displayed in the chapel while children's art and refreshments will be in the Fellowship Hall. From 3:30 to 4:30 children will have an opportunity to complete an art project.

Word is that a full size sailboat will be on view in the Fellowship Hall!

To register for the art exhibit, contact [swyatt@ibcnashville.org](mailto:swyatt@ibcnashville.org) or the church office, 615.297.5356. Mark your calendar for this upcoming event to celebrate the arts of Immanuel and to deepen our love for God and others.

Event planning members include Charles and Georgina Businaro, Carolyn Campbell, Steven Meriwether, Tim Sharp and Stephanie Wyatt.

**SEE MORE ON PAGE 4!**

The exhibits are dedicated to the memory Randy Dover – church member, architect, creator.



# The Weather Report

On the seventh Wednesday before Easter and the first day of Lent, Christians around the world receive the imposition of ashes on their foreheads or the back of their hands. Ashes derived from the burning of the palm branches from the previous Holy Week are used to make a paste-like substance to be applied to the skin in the form of a cross.

In New Orleans, the weeks building up to Ash Wednesday are filled with Mardi Gras parades. During Carnival, the population of the city swells. New to the parade scene, I learned the ropes from one seasoned veteran. Commonsensically they said, “Where you are standing at a parade determines what you see and hear.”

Where you stand in the spiritual geography of your life may determine what mysterious power the season of Lent will hold for you and for me this year. If you are firmly planted in the twenty-four-hour time of commerce, you likely will miss Lent’s gift – a withdrawal from convenience. In an age when we read the message at the moment of its conception in the mind of the sender and dinner is delivered to your door, we intentionally seek wilderness.



Accustomed to having whatever your need or fancy available at one’s fingertips, we are likely to read past the action of our Lord in those first Forty Days. Jesus withdrew to a lonely place. He fell off the map of public life and sought what Sallie McFague terms “wildness.” “Wildness is not the same as wilderness. ‘Wildness’ is a place to be visited on its own terms; it is not necessarily a vast track of land, but a place available for exploration.”<sup>1</sup> For forty days and nights, Jesus fasted and prayed as he explored the kingdom of heaven on earth.

Ash Wednesday calls us to remember we are dust. The source of much worry and sorrow is the illusion that we are anything but finite creatures. We live with an insatiable hunger for autonomy and significance. We make plans as if we are the author of our lives rather than narrator. Withdrawing for a season, we have the opportunity to clear out and clean off the space meant for the indwelling of God. Only then does our dust become splendor.

Through the primacy of touch, we begin our exploration of the kingdom of heaven on its terms. Lent begins with a touch, and in turn, calls us to be in touch with others and in turn touched by them. To be in touch with the place where we live, and the gift of what time we have on earth. To be in touch with the Spirit of God who seeks to dwell within us.

Steven



## Immanuel Baptist Church

The mission of Immanuel Baptist Church is to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to deepen our love for God and others, to fully engage our neighbor, and to wholeheartedly serve those on the margins of society.

*God is calling Immanuel Baptist Church to practice the radical, compassionate discipleship taught by Jesus Christ.*

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<sup>1</sup> McFague, Sallie. *Super, Natural Christians*. P.123.

## Our Best Giving Is an Expression of Gratitude and Trust

Churches and charitable organizations need money. Buildings must be maintained, workers paid, and programs funded. Ongoing activities seemingly demand a constant promotion of giving. With this backdrop, does it matter why we give? Are some motivations better for our souls and the nurturing of a life-sustaining faith?

Some suitors for our gifts draw upon our pride, recognizing our desire to be seen as generous persons to ourselves and those around us. Others appeal to our greed, promising that the more we give the more God will bless us materially. Others manipulate our guilt with the subtle assurance that a larger contribution will ease a troubled conscience and secure God's favor. Still others tap into our fear, implying that a generous spirit might ward off bad things from happening. All of these are appealing to our future self-interest, urging us to give so we can get.

Many churches use these "give so we can get" enticements in varying combinations. They work. But are these appeals consistent with the grace-based faith we traditionally espouse? "Give so we can get" assumes God's favor can be earned or bought, cultivating a works-based faith.

How might a grace-based giving differ? Rooted in gratitude, it begins with experiences of unmerited grace personally received, connecting these to a loving God who is ever-giving in response to need. As an additional grace, we see God's provision in the resources of the world, the people that have touched our individual lives, and the talents, skills, and opportunities we have individually received. This recognition sparks a heartfelt gratitude alongside trust in the God that loves through giving. Our own giving becomes an expression of gratitude, trust, and faith as we get to become God's hands and feet, joyfully joining God in giving, responding to needs around us. When our giving expresses our gratitude and trust, it nurtures life-sustaining faith in us even as it contagiously invites those around us to join with us, bringing their gifts, all together responding to need.

The Stewardship Committee is grateful for the faithful giving of our Immanuel community supporting the ministries of our church. Nine months into the church year, our giving exceeds expenses. Thanks be to God!

—Claude Huguley

## Ash Wednesday

"Laundering Lent"

Homily by Pastor Stephanie  
Imposition of ashes

Wednesday

March 2 at 6:00 PM  
in the Chapel



March 13

Turn Those Clocks *FORWARD!*



# Celebrating the Arts of Immanuel

Sunday, March 27, 2022

## Arts Festival-Music!

The musical talent within the Immanuel Baptist Church community is amazing, and we are excited about showcasing this dimension of our church family during our Arts Festival on March 27. Throughout the afternoon of the Festival, we will be offering musical performances from our church members and those related to our church family. We know there is much more musical talent around us than what we see and hear on occasional Sunday mornings, so now is the time to offer these gifts to each other. If you or someone you know would be willing to offer one musical piece during the afternoon, please let me know (Tim Sharp) or one of our arts committee members or staff of your willingness and interest. Please see me or email me at [tsharp@ibcnashville.org](mailto:tsharp@ibcnashville.org). Please know that we absolutely do want to hear music from all walks of life, all styles, all instruments, and all ages! If you need accompaniment, we are prepared to accompany and assist in your musical presentation. There are time slots available throughout the afternoon, and only one musical piece is requested. We hope you will join us and share your musical expression with us and to our delight!

—Tim Sharp

### Sanctuary Flowers



If you wish to provide sanctuary flowers for 2022 and have not already signed up for a Sunday, the following dates are available: May 15, September 4, and December 11. Contact Charles Businaro for details.

### Visit the library to learn more about these artists and musicians:

- *Leonardo da Vinci* by Walter Isaacson
- *Lives of the Artists: Masterpieces, Messes (and What the Neighbors thought)* by Kathleen Krull
- *Maya Lin: Thinking with Her Hands* by Susan Goldman Rubin
- *Picasso and Minou* by P. Maltbie
- *Who was Claude Monet?* by Ann Waldron
- *Who was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart?* by Yona Zeldis Mcdonough





### Help Again with Luke 14:12 Desserts

Help Immanuel provide 600 individually wrapped desserts for our ministry partners at Luke 14:12. Dessert options include cookies, brownies, pastries or other items . Our March collection date will be Sunday, March 27. Drop off your desserts in the church kitchen (or let us know if you need to bring them the week before.)

### The 2021 Virtual Boulevard Bolt raised \$80,000!

The money is going to 16 organizations that help our neighbors who are homeless in Middle TN. Thank you to everyone who participated!

The organizations who are receiving funds are: Communities In Schools of Tennessee, Community Resource Center, Luke 14:12, Nashville Public Library Foundation, Neighborhood Health, Oasis Center, Inc., Operation Stand Down Tennessee, People Loving Nashville, Renewal House, Inc., Shade Tree Clinic, Siloam Health, The Joe Beretta Foundation, The Nashville Food Project, Thistle Farms, Youth Villages, YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee.

## Haydn's Creation

presented in its  
entirety

Sunday, April 3 at 2 PM

Wightman Chapel  
Scarritt-Bennett Center

presented by  
The Nashville  
Choral Collective

**REMINDER:**  
**Final**  
**Passport Kids**  
**Payment**  
**is due**  
**April 15**

**NO IBC**  
**BookClub**  
**in**  
**March**

# Church Family News

## PRAYER LIST

Ike Harris  
Allen Schlamp  
LaNieve Coles  
Scott, Mary, and Daniel Hudgins (in North Carolina)

## Welcome, New Members!



**Jonathan and Sonia Higdon** joined by letter from a sister church in Nashville. Their deacon will be Jill Cooper.

## THANK YOU!

Immanuel has received a kind thank you note from First Baptist Church, Mayfield, Kentucky, thanking us for all we have done to help in their time of need. In addition to sending a team of volunteers to help organize "care packages" of supplies for the residents, we have sent \$5,500 in monetary donations.

## BEREAVEMENT

Sympathy is extended to Jeanie and Tim Reynolds, Abigail Reynolds, Rachel Gale and the entire Reynolds family on the death of Mary Kirk, who died January 29; and to Pat, Beryl, and Mark Vick on the death of their daughter and sister, Jennifer Vick Kiper. Jennifer is also survived by her husband, Mark Kiper.

## Sanctuary Flowers

During the month of March the Decorations Committee is responsible for the Sanctuary Flowers.

## IN MEMORIAM

MARY KIRK  
29 August 1924 ~ 29 January 2022  
Joined Immanuel  
6 May 2007

## THANK YOU

Dear IBC Family, Thank you for all the calls, cards, and visits during recent months as Mother's health declined. You brightened her days. Your care and prayers for all of us have sustained us, especially in the days since her death.  
—Family of Mary Kirk

# happy birthday to you!

### March 1

Susan Hawkins

### March 3

Patty Brown  
Cleatus Moorehead

### March 7

Nancy Vanderveer

### March 11

Scott Newman

### March 12

Abigail Reynolds  
Richard Shadinger

### March 17

Sherry Cooper

### March 19

Ben Rowan

### March 21

Tim Fields  
Mina Harris  
Erik Kihlberg

### March 23

Carol Boozer  
Claude Huguley

### March 24

Lauren Baker

### March 26

Bill Gregg

### March 27

Charles Businaro  
Bennett Jarnigan



# Calendar of Events

## TUESDAY, MARCH 1

9:30 PDO

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

5:00 Children's Choir

5:00 Church Family Supper

6:00 Adult Studies

-Handbells/Brass rehearsals

-Children on Mission

7:00 Adult Choir rehearsal

## THURSDAY, MARCH 3

9:30 PDO

6:00 RITI

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:15 Sunday School All Ages

10:30 Worship/Lord's

Supper/Fellowship Offering

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:30 PDO

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:30 PDO

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

5:00 Children's Choir

5:00 Church Family Supper

6:00 Adult Program

-Handbells/Brass rehearsals

-Children on Mission

7:00 Adult Choir rehearsal

## THURSDAY, MARCH 10

9:30 PDO

6:30 Stewardship ZOOM

## SUNDAY, MARCH 13

9:15 Sunday School All Ages

10:30 Worship

## TUESDAY, MARCH 15

9:30 PDO

6:30 Deacons' Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

5:00 Children's Choir

5:00 Church Family Supper

6:00 Adult Program

-Handbells/Brass rehearsals

-Children on Mission

7:00 Adult Choir rehearsal

## THURSDAY, MARCH 17

9:30 PDO

6:00 RITI

## SUNDAY, MARCH 20

9:15 Sunday School All Ages

10:30 Worship

## TUESDAY, MARCH 22

9:30 PDO

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

5:00 Children's Choir

5:00 Church Family Supper

6:00 Business Meeting

-Handbells/Brass rehearsals

-Children on Mission

7:00 Adult Choir rehearsal

## THURSDAY, MARCH 24

9:30 PDO

## SUNDAY, MARCH 27

9:15 Sunday School All Ages

10:30 Worship/Children's Church

3:00 Celebrating the Arts

## MONDAY, MARCH 28

9:30 PDO

## TUESDAY, MARCH 29

9:30 PDO

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

5:00 Children's Choir

5:00 Church Family Supper

6:00 "Mental Fitness 2022"

-Handbells/Brass rehearsals

-Children on Mission

7:00 Adult Choir rehearsal

## TUESDAY, MARCH 31

9:30 PDO

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### Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Mon - Thurs.

The church office is closed on Fridays.

*The newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month for the following month's publication.*

*Submissions are subject to editing per space restrictions.*

*E-mail submissions go to [dmaxwell@ibcnashville.org](mailto:dmaxwell@ibcnashville.org), or call 615.297.5356 ext. 11 with questions.*

Place  
Stamp  
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