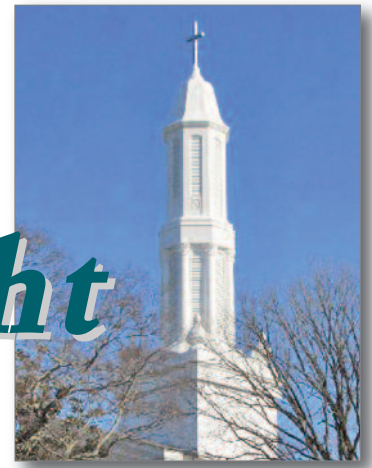


# The Immanuel *Light*

FEBRUARY 2020

VOL. 12 No. 2



## Boulevard Bolt Passes the \$4 Million Mark



On Tuesday, January 14, the **Boulevard Bolt** gave away \$278,000. This brings the 26 year total to \$4,000,100! This year 59 different agencies received funds. They serve the homeless in Middle Tennessee in many different ways. Some provide food, clothes, and shelter. Others provide mental and physical health care. There are groups that provide showers and haircuts and some who make sure babies have diapers. The need is great, and we are glad we can help support all of these groups in their work.

This would not have been possible without so many of you participating, volunteering, and sponsoring the Bolt.

Thank you!

Susan Crossover, Brandon Jarnigan, & Abigail Reynolds



**Boulevard Bolt  
Recipient Reception  
January 14, 2020**

Sponsored By:  
Immanuel Baptist Church  
St. George's Episcopal Church  
The Temple Congregation Ohabai Sholom

## THE WEATHER REPORT

Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant George Clark were co-commanders of the Corps of Discovery. The two were charged by President Thomas Jefferson with the mission of finding an all-water route to the Pacific. Despite a tragic ending, Meriwether Lewis was truly a national hero.

Tod Bolsinger sees a driving metaphor for our present moment in history in the story of the Corps of Discovery. “In a very brief time our world has become volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous,” he writes.<sup>1</sup> Lewis and Clark were packing canoes when they discovered mountains in lieu of an all-water route to the Pacific. Sitting on the crest of Lemhi Pass, Captain Lewis realized they had entered uncharted territory.

The numbers on the Western church’s steady decline are widely circulated. Canadian born Charles Taylor is a most insightful thinker on the broad subject of the development of “Western Christendom.” He aptly frames the challenge facing the Christian church today with a question. “One way to put the question is this: why was it virtually impossible not to believe in God, in, say, 1500 in our Western society, while in 2000 many of us find this not only easy, but even inescapable?”<sup>2</sup>

There is a fascinating parallel to be made between the present day Christian church and Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. Equipped to navigate an all-water route to the Pacific, the Corps of Discovery discovered mountains upon mountains; they had to rethink the way forward. The canoes were rendered useless. Horses were needed. Forging relationships with local Indians in order to purchase horses became paramount. Sacagawea was invaluable in the forging of such relations.

The success of the mission hinged on the adaptability of the leaders. When known solutions proved inept, Lewis and Clark showed a resolve to look at deeper questions of purpose and context. They learned to lead from the position of “we don’t know.” As leaders, they sought and valued the input from all participants. They voted. The late Stephen Ambrose notes the significance. “This was the first vote ever held in the Pacific Northwest. It was the first time in American history that a black slave had voted, the first time a woman had voted.”<sup>3</sup>

Presently, the associate pastor search committee is diligently at work. The job description for this position has been slightly revised to include an emphasis on growth. The committee has talked with candidates about Immanuel’s desire to increase participation in the church’s mission. The conversations have been candid and honest. I have listened intently.

The Christian church, Immanuel Baptist Church specifically, finds itself in uncharted territory. Many of you have asked some form of the following question: “What can we do to keep our churches from dying?” Despite his own ambivalence about Christian faith, Jefferson’s resolve may inspire us moving forward. As Jefferson trusted a younger Meriwether Lewis, might we inspire the younger generation to go where we have not gone? Tod Bolsinger writes to churches asking the aforementioned question. “I would say, Focus on your own transformation together, not on your church dying. Focus on the mountains ahead, not the rivers behind. Focus on continually learning, not what you have already mastered.”<sup>4</sup>

—Steven

<sup>1</sup>Bolsinger, Tod. *Canoeing the Mountains*. P.17.

<sup>2</sup>Taylor, Charles. *A Secular Age*. P.25.

<sup>3</sup>Ambrose, Stephen E. *Undaunted Courage*. P.311.

<sup>4</sup>Bolsinger, Tod. *Ibid*. P.215



### 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.*

#### Pastor

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smeriwether@ibcnashville.org

#### Minister of Music

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#### Parents’ Day Out Director

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#### Pastor Emeritus

David George

#### Minister of Music Emeritus

Beryl Vick

# Senior Adult Activities

## February Meeting

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 10:30 AM

Come enjoy singer, songwriter Les Kerr,

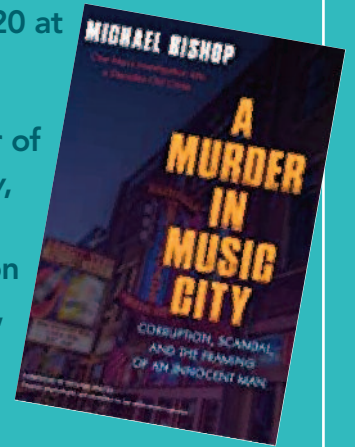


who combines blues, New Orleans music, Zydeco, rock and bluegrass for a very fun program. Contact Evelyn Brandon by Friday, January 31, to make your reservation.

## March Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 10:30 AM

Michael Bishop, author of *A Murder in Music City*, will be guest speaker. Contact Evelyn Brandon by Friday, February 28, to make your reservation.



# Senior Adult Excursions

## *Beethoven's Birthday Bash*

Sunday, February 23 at 2:00 PM

Nashville Symphony  
Depart Immanuel by van

Lunch at the Omni before the concert  
Cost: \$35 per person



## Submit Deacon Nominations

by Sunday, 12 noon, February 9

Ballots, eligibility lists, and envelopes can be found across from the library and outside the church office.

## DRC Recommendation Passes

The recommendation from the Denominational Relations Committee regarding Immanuel's association with the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship passed by a vote of 77 yes, 13 no, at the called business meeting on Sunday, January 26.

The recommendation was published in the January 2020 issue of *The Immanuel Light*.

## Wednesdays in February

**February 5**

Living in the Bible Belt, Part 2

**February 12**

Living in the Bible Belt, Part 3

**February 19**

Business Meeting and  
Youth Minister candidate Andrew Tonks

**February 26**

Ash Wednesday



# Ash Wednesday

February 26 at 6:00 PM

Join us in the Chapel as we mark the beginning of the Season of Lent. Pastor Steven will conduct the imposition of ashes. Childcare is provided for preschoolers; children and youth will join in this special service.



**February 6 and 20**

**March 5 and 19**

*Sign up to help on the bulletin board  
across from the parlor.*

## Annual Appalachian Outreach Mission Trip

**March 27-29 • Jefferson City, TN**

Our tasks have not yet been finalized, but we will likely be sorting donations at A.O.'s warehouse, cleaning the Samaritan House, and hosting dinner along with an Easter egg hunt for the guests of the Samaritan House. If you are interested in participating, contact Susan Crownover or Emily Gnetz.

*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.*

—Mission Statement of Immanuel Baptist Church, adopted June 2015

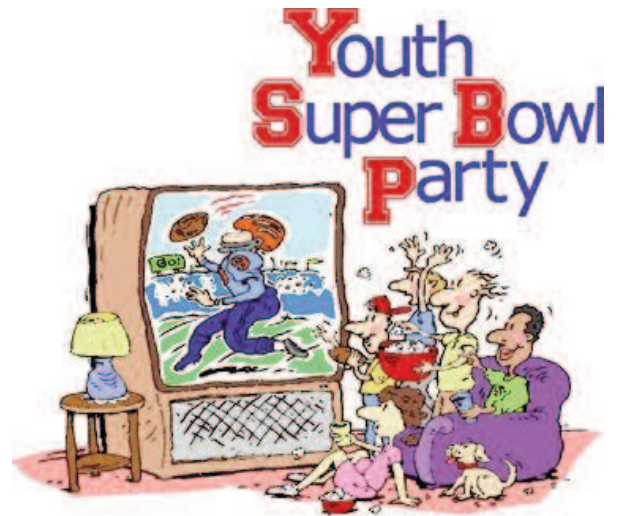
## Update from the Search Committee

The Search Committee has been hard at work since our last official report to the congregation at October's Business Meeting. We were pleased with the response and have had successful and encouraging interviews thus far.

The Committee is excited to announce a great candidate for the part-time Youth Minister position. Andrew Tonks is a Vanderbilt Divinity School student from Lexington, Kentucky. The youth and parents will meet Andrew at their Super Bowl Party. Everyone will have an opportunity to meet Andrew following a brief business meeting on Wednesday, February 19. The congregation will vote to officially call Andrew at a special called business meeting after worship on Sunday, March 8. Copies of Andrew's resume are available upon request.

The process continues for the full-time Associate Minister position. We have completed our first round of interviews and have started a second round of interviews. Once the Committee selects a candidate to recommend, an introduction will be made to the congregation before a formal call to ministry at IBC. We look forward to sharing more soon.

Please continue to be in prayer for the Search Committee and the candidates so that we may discern God's call for the Associate Minister position.



**Sunday**  
**February 2, 5:00 PM**  
**at the**  
**Kihlbergs' home**

### A NEW ROOF FOR IMMANUEL!

While investigating the cause of a small roof problem last fall, our contractor discovered extensive hail damage that had occurred at some point in the past. The church filed a claim with our insurance company, which was accepted last month. The contractor and the insurance company have some details to work out about how the work will be done, but you can expect to see the entire roof of the church be replaced in coming months.

## Final Octave of Hand Chimes Given to Immanuel

The final octave of hand chimes needed to complete Immanuel's set has been purchased with money given in memory of Bill and Fay Thompson by The Thompson Trust. These chimes are used both by the handbell choir and by our children's music program.

How blest we are to have members who show their love for Immanuel with special gifts such as these chimes!



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those among our family of faith who are facing moments of crisis and celebration.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Baker and Lizzie Woodall, who were united in marriage on Saturday, January 11, 2020.

## IN MEMORIAM

### DONALD WAYNE JONES

10 October 1944 ~

29 December 2019

Joined Immanuel

30 October 1977

## BEREAVEMENT

Sympathy is extended to **John Brandon** on the death of his brother, George; and to **Linda Fields** on the death of her brother, Philip Walls; to **Stephen Wilkerson** on the death of his father, Mike Wilkerson.

## Extended Session

**February 2** - Katy Clouse, Kay Johnson, Patty Littlejohn, Vickie Vu

**February 9** - Emily Gnetz, Susan Crownover, Jeanie Reynolds, Malcolm Homer

**February 16** - Ashley and Stephen Payne, Lissa Jamnigan, Josiah Baker

**February 23** - Diane Sharpe, Melanie Dover, Jimmy Conn, Savannah Horner



Internationally known organist **Peter Krasinski** entertained a large audience at Immanuel on January 13 by playing organ accompaniment to the silent film “The Ten Commandments” from the 1920s. The concert was jointly sponsored by the Divinity School at Vanderbilt and the Nashville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

## Sanctuary Flowers

**February 2** - given in memory of William J. Reynolds in his centenary year (April 2, 1920). Dr. Reynolds was Immanuel’s interim minister of music January-June, 1965. The flowers are given by Tim and Jeanie Reynolds, Abigail Reynolds, Rachel, Matt, Lola, and Finley Gale, and Kirk, Ann, and Hannah Reynolds.

**February 9** - given by Ellen and Scot Newman in loving memory of their grandparents: Hazel and Henry Businaro, Mildred and Harvey Phillips, Jane K. and Charles R. Gambs, Jr. and Norma and Kenneth Newman.

**February 16** - given by Diane and Greg Sharpe “in honor of and thanks for our church staff.”

**February 23** - given by Sam and Elaine McKenna in loving memory of William and Mary Ann McKenna and John and Christine Henry.



Jeremy Finley, Channel 4 investigative reporter and author of *The Darkest Time of Night*, spoke at the January Senior Adult meeting on Tuesday, January 7.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:15 Sunday School  
10:20 Deacons' prayer group  
10:30 Worship  
5:00 Youth Super Bowl Party

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

9:30 PDO

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:30 PDO  
10:30 Senior Adult Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

5:00 Church Family Supper  
5:00 Children and Music  
5:50 Church Family Time  
6:00 Tennessee's Religious History  
6:00 Children on Mission  
6:00 Immanuel Youth  
6:00 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
7:00 Brass rehearsal

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:30 PDO  
5:00 RITI

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9:15 Sunday School  
10:20 Deacons' prayer group  
10:30 Worship  
11:45 Missions/Ministries Committee

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

9:30 PDO

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

9:30 PDO  
7:00 Stewardship Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

5:00 Church Family Supper  
5:00 Children and Music  
5:50 Church Family Time  
6:00 Tennessee's Religious History  
6:00 Children on Mission

6:00 Immanuel Youth  
6:00 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
7:00 Brass/Handbell rehearsals

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:30 PDO

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:15 Sunday School  
10:20 Deacons' prayer group  
10:30 Worship

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

9:30 PDO

6:30 Deacons' Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

5:00 Church Family Supper  
5:00 Children and Music  
5:50 Church Family Time  
6:00 Business Meeting  
6:00 Children on Mission  
6:00 Immanuel Youth  
6:00 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
7:00 Brass/Handbell rehearsals

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

9:30 PDO  
5:00 RITI

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:15 Sunday School  
10:20 Deacons' prayer group  
10:30 Worship  
11:30 Schermerhorn concert

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9:30 PDO

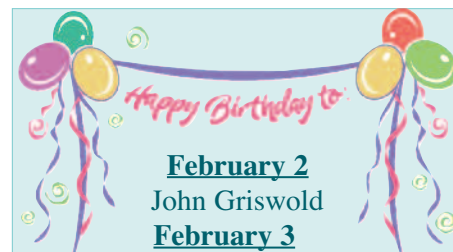
### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:30 PDO  
11:15 Luke 14:12

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

5:00 Church Family Supper  
5:00 Children and Music  
5:50 Church Family Time  
6:00 Ash Wednesday

6:00 Children on Mission  
6:00 Immanuel Youth  
6:00 Sanctuary Choir rehearsal  
7:00 Brass/Handbell rehearsals  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27**  
9:30 PDO



#### February 2

John Griswold

#### February 3

Nancy Huguley  
Stephen Wilkerson

#### February 5

Scotty Dean  
Anne Severance

#### February 6

Susan Crownover

#### February 7

Meredith Crownover

#### February 10

Troy Clouse  
Peggy George  
Stephen Payne

#### February 11

Geneva Wilkerson

#### February 12

Kaelyn Newton  
Gary Witzgall

#### February 13

Matthew Atkinson

Jeanie Reynolds

#### February 14

Beth Pirtle

#### February 16

Elaine Fleming

Olivia Leu

#### February 17

Linda Fields

Joyce Peterson

Janet Parker

Ashley Payne

#### February 20

Pat Vick

#### February 21

Flo Clark

#### February 22

Ellen Mundy

### Facts and Figures

#### Financially Speaking (Through December 2019)

YTD  
Fiscal Year Income  
\$360,864.45  
YTD  
Fiscal Year Expense  
\$294,558.00  
Net income:  
\$66,306.45

#### Attendance Report

##### Sunday School

January 5	101
January 12	94
January 19	93
January 26	NA

##### Worship Service

January 5	NA
January 12	90
January 19	108
January 26	120

## From Generation to Generation: Growing Young

Plan to be a part of the Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's annual statewide General Assembly being held here at Immanuel on Friday night, April 17, and Saturday, April 18. Come to fellowship, worship and learn with Cooperative Baptists from around the state. Our emphasis this year will be based on the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. If you are interested in volunteering to



help with the meeting, please contact Melanie Dover. Registration information will be available soon at [tncbf.org](http://tncbf.org).

## Library Notes

Be sure to check the library this month for Linda Fields' book, *The Awakening: A Search For God, Self and Meaning*. Linda relates personal events in her life that led to a study of five different authors and their search for God, Self and Meaning.



### CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

There will be a called business meeting after worship on Sunday, March 8, to vote on a recommendation from the Search Committee for part time Minister of Youth.

Church Office 615.297.5356  
Fax 615.297.2247  
E-mail [dmaxwell@ibcnashville.org](mailto:dmaxwell@ibcnashville.org)  
Website [www.ibcnashville.org](http://www.ibcnashville.org)

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  
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