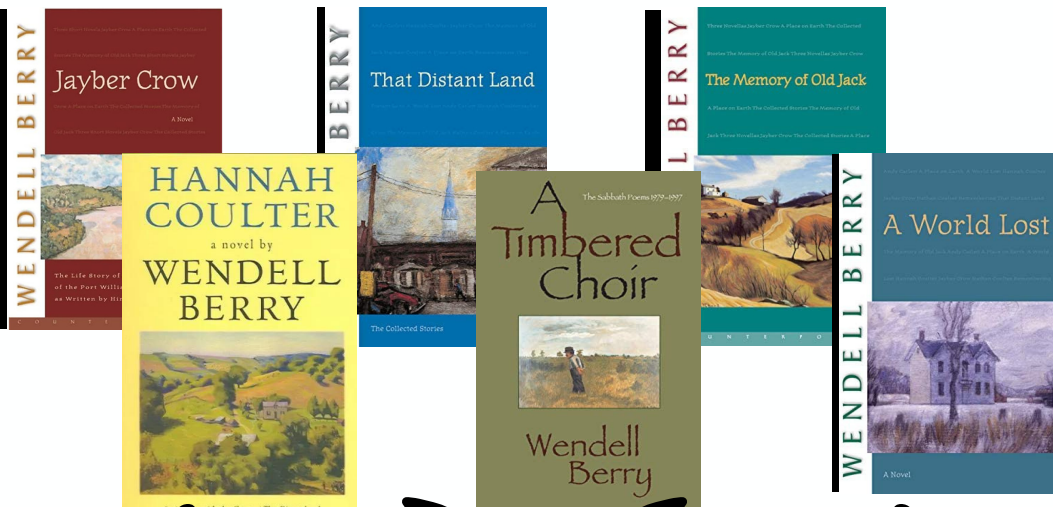


IMMANUEL LIGHT

Wendell Berry & Radical Localism

The first two Wednesdays in February, Annette Sisson, Professor of English at Belmont University, will be lead discussions of Wendell Berry's work during the Adult Program in the Chapel at 6pm. Belmont Professor of Communication Jimmy Davis, who is Dr. Sisson's spouse, will join her for the conversation.

Our presenters encourage you to familiarize yourselves with two of Berry's short stories: "Pray without Ceasing" and "Fidelity," as well as a couple video interviews that will be discussed. Links to all of these preparatory resources are available via the related article at ibcnashville.org.



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To get ready for our February series, check out our collection of Wendell Berry titles in the church library- you will find them featured on the table to the left of the library entrance.

Additionally, the Immanuel Book Club will meet on Sunday, February 26 at 3:30 in the church library. Participants are asked to read something by Wendell Berry during the month of February, and come to the meeting to discuss our reading together. We encourage interested readers to join us.

For further information, contact Richard Shadinger



Immanuel Baptist Church

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Minister of Music Emeritus

The Weather Report

1 February 2023

The Christian pastor has unique vantage points. The obvious one being the view of the congregation from the pulpit. There is also secondhand information passed on at opportune (and inopportune) moments. Perhaps no perspective surpasses the view from the balcony. The distance enlarges perspective.

These vantage points assist the pastor in shaping the conversation, the currency of change. Gil Rendle has coached several generations of Christian leaders. He writes, "What we invite people to talk about, to think about, to pray about determines the path we will follow into the future." [1] Rendle has identified three essential types of conversations leaders invite others into: maintenance conversations, preferential conversations and missional conversations. The latter centers on purpose and the possibility of the future.

In June 2015, the congregation adopted the following mission statement. 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. Earlier in September of 2014, the church, after a period of discernment, adopted its vision statement. We believe God is calling Immanuel to practice the radical, compassionate discipleship taught by Jesus. The latter seeks to answer why Immanuel Baptist Church exists. The mission statement aims to lay out what we must do to realize the vision.

The final step in the process of discernment was to devise a mission action plan (MAP). To arrive at the MAP, the congregation considered five possible actions reflecting the four key phrases of the mission statement. ([link to phrases and five actions](#)) After celebrating World Communion on Sunday, October 11, we gathered in the newly renovated chapel where together, we placed colored stickers by the possible actions we deemed important. Through this exercise, participants registered their willingness to participate in particular actions. These colored stickers helped us identify the path we would follow.

Last summer, the deacons resumed in person meetings on Sundays after worship. Sharing lunch, we set out to talk about, think about, and pray about the ministry God is calling Immanuel to fulfill at this moment in time. The church is still sounding the depths of the impact of the pandemic, significant in many ways. The deacons and ministerial staff have worked to discern the best path forward in reminding members of the benefits of worship, the joy of community, and the richness of fellowship with other believers.

To this end, we dusted off the MAP and looked closely at those actions the church deemed important in 2015. The MAP has served the church well,

[1] Rendle, Gil . Doing the Math of Mission. P.34.



THIS MONTH

FEBRUARY 3

IBC CHOIR &

THE CHUCK NATION BAND
"HIGH LONESOME BLUEGRASS
MASS"

~ PLUS ~

DR. ANTHONY WILLIAMS AND
FISK JUBILEE SINGERS

7PM PERFORMANCE AT
WIGHTMAN CHAPEL AT
SCARRITT BENNETT CENTER

FEBRUARY 12

DEACON NOMINATIONS DUE

FEBRUARY 19

CHILDREN'S CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL

FEBRUARY 22

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
IN CHAPEL AT 6PM

FEBRUARY 26

DEACON'S MEETING
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 26

DESSERTS DUE
FOR LUKE 14:12

UPCOMING

MARCH 5

WOMEN OF IMMANUEL DAY

guiding us toward faithful ministry. How might the MAP guide us in doing what God is asking us to do now? The deacons and staff identified one action from each of the four phrases to receive special emphasis of Immanuel Baptist Church in 2023. Priority will be given to the following: Reach out to "Nones"; Create additional fellowship opportunities; Provide opportunities for interfaith dialogue; and Increase participation in existing ministries.

The deacons and staff invite you to be in prayerful consideration for the ministry God is calling us to fulfill in the year ahead. Where might you play a role in these specific actions? Stay tuned to future publications for more information on the path we will follow in the year ahead.

Steven

Upcoming Wednesday Night Programs

February 1 & 8

Dr. Annette Sisson & Dr.
Jimmy Davis speak on the
writings of Wendell Berry

February 15

Business Meeting
RITI Setup

February 22

Ash Wednesday Service

Parents Day Out



Immanuel PDO began registration for the 23-24 IPDO school year on Jan 16. As of Jan 28, the team has started completing rosters with those on the waitlist. Moving forward, IPDO would love any referrals from the church body for teachers, substitute teachers and prospective students. Email Michelle at mfernandes@ibcnashville.org with any suggestions.

Stay tuned for details regarding registration for IPDO summer camp later this month!

Livestream Audio

If you have joined us for a Sunday morning service in the sanctuary over the past few weeks, you have likely noticed a decline in the quality of the sound. This decline is due to damage sustained by the two main speakers in the sanctuary, which rendered the speakers unusable in their current state. We are working diligently to coordinate repairs and regret any inconvenience and audible hardship.

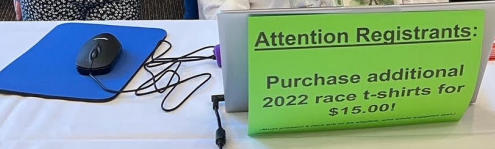
In the meantime, our sound consultants have generously provided a pair of interim speakers located on tripods in the sanctuary. Our hope is that, while this arrangement is not ideal, these temporary speakers will provide adequate sound while we await the repair of our speakers. The queue for analysis/repair is lengthy, so we ask for your patience as we move towards a solution.

Thank you,
The Sound Committee



Boulevard Bolt

On January 17th the Boulevard Bolt gave away \$200,000! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, registered, donated, sponsored, or did work that made it possible for someone else to do those things! Since 1994 the Bolt has raised \$4,383,300 for local agencies who help those who are homeless by providing food, shelter, clothing, job training, showers, medical care, and more.



Missions & Ministry



ROOM IN THE INN



Room in the Inn sign-up sheets for February are posted on the bulletin board outside the piano side entrance to the sanctuary.

If you have questions about volunteering, please contact Pastor Stephanie (615-297-5356 or swyatt@ibcnashville.org).

For Our Friends at Luke 14:12



In January we made 610 individually wrapped desserts to contribute to our ministry partner! Thank you!

Luke 14:12 is evaluating its dessert delivery at present and so **we WILL NOT be collecting desserts for the month of February.** We will wait to hear what needs we may be able to assist with in March.

Stayed tuned for more info about the needs of our mission partners.

Note: IBC volunteers with Luke 14:12 on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Please contact Melanie Dover at mmd78@bellsouth.net for more information.

AMOS Mission Trip Mar 24-26

Appalachian Outreach is now Appalachian Ministries of the Smokies (AMOS)

We will leave for East Tennessee on Friday, March 24th, work all-day on Saturday, March 25th, and worship together Sunday morning, March 26th before departing.

Accommodations will be in a hotel on Friday and Saturday nights. If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Stephanie know as soon as possible (swyatt@ibcnashville.org) or 615-297-5856. All ages are welcome.

Church Family News

In Memoriam

Judy Auer

10 November 1942 ~ 22 December 2022

Val Evans

15 September 1924 ~ 30 December 2022

Virginia Neely

8 November 1926 ~ 3 January 2023

Baptisms



Siblings Campbell and Lyla Gnetz were baptized at Immanuel during Sunday morning worship on January 15th. They are the children of Emily and Brandon Gnetz and the grandchildren of Larry and Debbie Maxwell and Mary and David Gnetz. Campbell shared that he chose to be baptized as a symbol of his commitment to the church and Christ. Lyla emphasized that she wished to be baptized at Immanuel “not only because it’s my church but because it feels like it’s my second home.” Both expressed thanks to their families, friends, and pastors.

Sanctuary Flowers

Feb 5. Ed & Betty Kay Wasserman

Feb 12. Ellen & Scott Newman

Feb 19. Jeanie Reynolds, Diane Morris,
and Bob Kirk

Feb 26. Decorations Committee

February Birthdays



FEBRUARY 2
JOHN GRISWOLD

FEBRUARY 5
SCOTTY DEAN
TIM SHARP

February 3
NANCY HUGULEY
STEPHEN WILKERSON

FEBRUARY 6
SUSAN CROWNOVER

FEBRUARY 7
MEREDITH
CROWNOVER

FEBRUARY 8
KAREN LEWIS

FEBRUARY 10
PEGGY GEORGE
TROY CLOUSE

FEBRUARY 11
GENEVA WILKERSON

FEBRUARY 12
KAELYN NEWTON

FEBRUARY 13
MATTHEW ATKINSON
JEANIE REYNOLDS

FEBRUARY 16
ELAINE FLEMING

FEBRUARY 17
LINDA FIELDS
MICHELLE NGUYEN

FEBRUARY 20
PAT VICK

FEBRUARY 22
ELLEN MUNDY FORD
STEPHANIE WYATT

Options for Giving



How Can I Give? Thanks for Asking!

- You can contribute via cash or check by placing your offering in the collection plate at the altar in the front of the sanctuary on Sunday morning.
- You can mail a check to the church office (222 Belle Meade Blvd / Nashville, TN 37205) or drop off cash or check when the office is open.
- You can use online bill pay to schedule automatic monthly contributions (contact the church office for more information).

*** The forms of payment listed above are the most cost-efficient sources of income for the church, as Immanuel does not incur any transaction fees with these types of contributions. ***

Additionally, online and mobile giving provide additional opportunities to conveniently donate, especially for those wanting to make a one-time or special gift.

- You may access online giving through the church's website, ibcnashville.org, by clicking the "Contribute" button, the far-left option on the site's menu bar at the top of the page. This button will take you to a page through which you can log on to your Realm account, find instructions for giving via text, or be directed to a giving form via the "Give Now" button.
- Budget line items available for this type of giving include the Budget Offering, Library Gifts, Memorial Flowers, Memorial Gifts, and Building Maintenance.
- If you choose this method of giving, we ask, if you are able, to check the box labeled "Contribute an extra \$___ to offset processing costs." The processing cost amount is a percentage of the amount you give. Credit cards transactions require 3% of the total gift and ACH (Debit) transactions require 1.5% of the total gift to process.
- By choosing to offset processing costs, you ensure the church will not have to set aside funds for this purpose.
- Please contact the church office (615-297-5356) with any questions. Jenny Dean can assist you with learning about online bill pay and Pastor Stephanie will be happy to assist you with making an online contribution.

Attendance Report

January 15	-	105
January 22	-	105
January 29	-	129

Financials

(Through December 31, 2022)

Year-to-Date Budget	Year-to-Date Actual Expense
\$336,608.64	\$330,441.17
Offerings to Date	Year-to-Date Net Income
\$333,753.31	\$3312.14

Lent Resources

Since the beginnings of our faith, we Christians have devoted ourselves to a period of preparation prior to our observance of Holy Week and Easter. The liturgical season of Lent calls us to examine our relationship with God and others, committing ourselves anew to the journey and the discipline of faith.

We can think of Lent as having three main components: prayer, simplicity, and service (Traci Smith's formulation). How will we seek to incorporate these different dimensions into our lives? Fortunately, we have a number of resources in our library to accompany us on our Lenten journey. Check out these books and other library resources in order to understand the significance of the season and engage in related spiritual practices.

- *Faithful Families for Lent, Easter, & Resurrection* by Traci Smith
- *Bitter and sweet: A Journey into Easter* by Tsh Oxenreider.
- *The Lenten Cookbook* by David Geisser



Ash Wednesday

22 FEBRUARY, 2023

6PM IN CHAPEL

TIME FOR REFLECTION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

SERVICE FOR ALL AGES



- *The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross* by Jon Meacham
- *The Last Week: What the Gospels really Teach about Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem* by Marcus Borg
- *The Final Week of Jesus: Highlights from And the Angels Were Silent* by Max Lucado

Women of Immanuel Day

Sunday, March 5th Following Worship Luncheon and Short Program

Women & Young Ladies (ages 6 and up) Invited

\$10 per adult
\$6 per child

4 WAYS TO REMEMBER GOD'S LOVE IN FEBRUARY



01. Write a love letter from God.
02. Pray for your enemies.
03. Read 1 Corinthians 13
04. Notice God's love in nature.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Next Children's Church:
February 19th

We're seeing stars!!



L-R: Meredith Crownover,
Holland Saylor, & Hagen Self.

Box Art by Melissa Clouse



Kindergarten Sunday School Class
L-R: Luke Saylor, Ian Jarnigan, & McCall Self

For the second year in a row, we
cleaned out our toys and brought
items to exchange. Extras will be
donated to Appalachian Ministries.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children gathered January 22nd for an Epiphany Party beginning with activities surrounding our focal scriptures from Matthew 2, the story of the magi and Mary and Joseph's flight to Egypt. We decorated star boxes. Inside our boxes we placed scent papers of frankincense and myrrh and a pretend gold coin, as well as instructions on how to perform a house blessing for the New Year when we returned home. We read the story of The Christmas Spider and we ate King Cake made by our own Geneva Wilkerson! Yum!

