

IMMANUEL LIGHT

Holy Week & Easter

The season of Lent culminates in Holy Week when Christians all over the world enter into a time of contemplation and remembrance of the last week of Jesus' life. The great celebration that takes place at the end of this week is, of course, Easter, but to fully appreciate the feast of Easter, we must first work through the hard realities of Jesus' last days.

As has been our custom, IBC staff members and other invited writers will be writing devotions for Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday. Look for each day's meditation in your email inbox. If you do not currently receive church emails, but would like to receive these devotions, please email Pastor Stephanie at swyatt@ibcnashville.org.

This year's writers are Richard Shadinger, Tim Powell, Kenny Cooper, Mary Vaughn, Judy Skeen, and Aaron Butler, as well as Pastors Steven and Stephanie. We begin our time of commemoration with Palm Sunday worship (March 24th at 10:30am) and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a procession of

palm leaves and singing "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Palm Sunday is celebratory in nature, but with a foreboding undertone, for we who experience the story from this side of Easter know that Jesus will be crucified a mere five days later. The children lead us as they walk the palms down the aisle while the choir sings.

During Holy Week, we do not have Wednesday night activities. Instead, we gather on Maundy Thursday (March 28th) for church supper at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall followed by a service for all ages in the Chapel at 6pm. Pastor Stephanie will offer a reflection. Maundy Thursday is when we remember (and re-enact) Jesus' last meal with his disciples by taking communion together.

On Good Friday (March 29th), we will meet at the columbarium for an outdoor service at 6pm. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets. In the case of rain, the service will be moved indoors.

This year, a neighboring congregation, Vine Street Christian Church, has asked if they might join

us. Vine Street ministers Thomas Kleinert and Margie Quinn will provide leadership to Good Friday alongside Pastors Steven and Stephanie. This service is a chance to remember the last day of Jesus' life and to reflect on the nature of human sin and frailty, suffering and death.

On Easter Sunday (March 31st), we return with joy to welcome our risen Savior! Bring your flowers to adorn the flowered cross in front of the doors to the sanctuary facing Belle Meade Boulevard (see Flowering the Cross article in this issue).

At the end of worship, we will recess out to the flowered cross for our benediction. At the conclusion of worship, you are welcome to take photos with friends and loved ones at the cross. Be careful when exiting the parking lot, as the children will be embarking on their Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn (grades K - 6) and in the colonnade courtyard (preschoolers).

We look forward to the blossoming of spring as we proceed along this holy route in the footsteps of Jesus with all its heartbreak and triumph. Join us as we walk the path of Holy Week together.

Flowering the Cross

As our church family celebrates the risen Christ this Easter Sunday morning, plan to add flowers to the eight-foot wooden cross. This cross has been the focal point of our sanctuary each Sunday during Lent and will be carried from the columbarium to the porch at the Belle Meade entrance on Good Friday, ready to be covered in flowers.

The beauty of the flowered cross is admired by church members as well as church neighbors. And the cross is the perfect background for family photos!

About 300 flowers are needed to completely cover the cross. Here are some options for helping:

1. Bring flowers from you home.
2. Purchase flowers from the grocery store.
3. Contribute \$15.00 for a bunch of flowers (10 to 25 stems) from the company that supplies our weekly flowers. The Decorations Committee will then order and pick up the flowers. For this option, designate your gift to the "Flowering the Cross" fund.

Join in decorating the cross with your flowers when you arrive on Easter Sunday morning.



Holy Week



SCHEDULE

March 24 – Palm Sunday	SANCTUARY WORSHIP 10:30AM
March 28 – Maundy Thursday	SERVICE IN CHAPEL 6PM
March 29 – Good Friday	SERVICE AT COLUMBARIUM 6PM
March 31 – Easter Sunday	SANCTUARY WORSHIP 10:30AM

ibcnashville.org

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH 31, 2024

FOLLOWING EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP
FRONT LAWN FOR GRADES K TO 6
COLONNADE COURTYARD FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Please bring candy for the Easter Egg Hunt beginning Sunday, March 10th. Kindly place your donations in labeled boxes on pews across from kitchen.

Please Take Note



Wednesdays in March

6 LENTEN HYMN SING WITH TIM POWELL
AND RICHARD SHADINGER
Chapel @ 6 PM

13 "PREDICTIONS OF THE PASSION IN MARK'S
GOSPEL AND THE PROBLEM OF A MIS-
UNDERSTOOD MESSIAH" BY KENNY COOPER
Chapel @ 6 PM

20 "THE TRIAL OF JESUS"
BY LARRY MAXWELL & JIM BERRY
Chapel @ 6 PM

28 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
Chapel @ 6 PM



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Minister of Music

Richard C. Shadinger, Organist

Beryl Vick,
Minister of Music Emeritus

March Birthdays

MARCH 1
SUSAN HAWKINS

MARCH 3
CLEATUS MOOREHEAD
PATTY BROWN

MARCH 7
NANCY VANDERVEER

MARCH 9
HOLLAND SAYLOR

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 KIHLEBERG

MARCH 23
CLAUDE HUGULEY
CAROL BOOZER

MARCH 24
LAUREN BAKER

MARCH 26
BILL GREGG

MARCH 27
BENNETT JARNIGAN
CHARLES BUSINARO



**TUESDAY
MARCH 5
11:00 AM in
the Chapel**



Author Beth Poe will discuss her children’s book “I Want to Be a Star.” She will be accompanied by her illustrator, Courtenay Decker, who will share how she was inspired for this project. The book, which is based on Poe’s deep faith and Christian principles, is available at the Immanuel library and will be available for purchase with cash. The program will begin at 11:00 AM in the Chapel, followed by lunch.

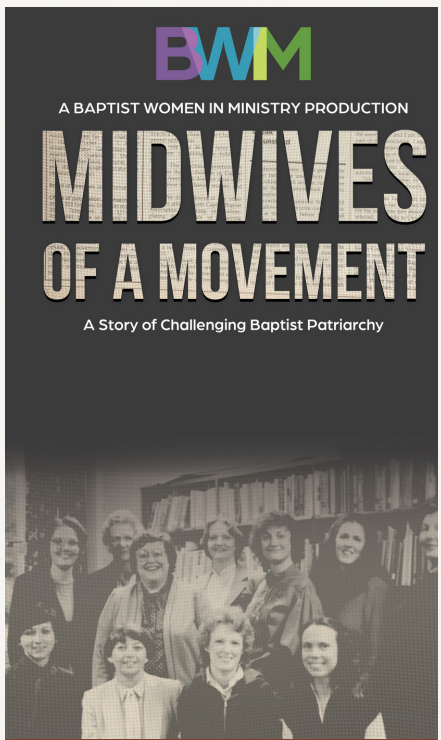
Beth Poe and Courtenay Decker met twenty years ago in a women’s Bible study and have enjoyed many other studies and their friendship over the years. Both stay-at-home moms (and now empty-nesters), they are continuing to look for how God wants to use them for His kingdom. Their prayer is that this book will bless you and your children and lead them to the True Light, Jesus Christ, as well as seeking to reflect His light every day.

Beth, a Nashville native, is a graduate of Vanderbilt University with a degree in Fine Arts. She enjoys painting, knitting, and gardening. This is Beth’s first book, but Lord willing, she would love to write another one and work with Courtenay again! She has been married to her husband, Marty, for 30 years. They live in Belle Meade (down the street!) and have two grown sons.

Courtenay grew up in Fort Smith, Arkansas and graduated from Baylor University in 1988 with a degree in journalism. They moved to Nashville in 2001. She has no formal art training but has always enjoyed drawing and painting as a hobby. She and her husband, Bill, live in Belle Meade. They have four grown children and four grandchildren.



DOCUMENTARY SCREENING **Sunday, March 17 – 5:00 PM in the Chapel**



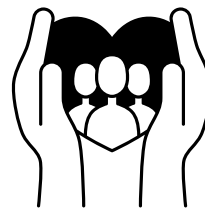
Immanuel will host a screening of this important documentary on Sunday, March 17 at 5:00 in the chapel. Far from being a topic of the past, the role of Baptist women in ministry is as relevant as today’s headlines. A February 20, 2024 Tennessean article reported that the SBC credentials committee voted that day to oust Immanuel Baptist in Paducah, Kentucky because they called a woman to be senior pastor. The article went on to say that “the convention will vote for a second and final time at this year’s SBC annual meeting in June whether to approve a measure seeking to enshrine a ban on women pastors.”

The documentary features interviews with eleven of the thirty-three women who, more than thirty years ago, boldly birthed a movement to advance women in ministry and leadership among Baptists. Two of those women, considered founding mothers of Baptist Women in Ministry, have Immanuel connections. Lela Hendrix was a member of our church and June McEwen was the mother of Melanie Dover. The film contains heartfelt stories, painful anecdotes, profound insights, and lighthearted remembrances which will inspire us even today.

Fellow church member Cliff Vaughn of Good Faith Media was the producer of the documentary. He and BWIM Executive Director Meredith Stone will be present at the screening to introduce it and engage in discussion afterwards. Space will be limited, so plan to come early!

Midwives of a Movement will also be screened on Monday, March 18th at 6:30pm at Belmont’s Johnson Theater.

From the Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship Committee is tasked with providing leadership for our church in matters of the financial well-being of the church. While we strive to always walk by faith, we also note the wisdom of looking ahead and being proactive in addressing future challenges.

First of all, we are grateful for the continued faithful stewardship of our congregation in the past and in the current year. Our church has no debt. We were also able to fund upgrades to our elevator and our sound system through bequests, memorial gifts, and designated gifts outside the annual budget. While our budget giving is still under budgeted expenses, a good January has us where our income exceeds our actual expenditures nine months into this church year. This is encouraging.

But there are some concerning trends. Sadly, we suffer the loss of faithful church members (and givers) each year. Despite this, our giving level to the church budget in recent years has remained fairly constant. Unfortunately, with inflation, our expenditures have been increasing. While we have been able to increase revenue from reimbursements for facilities use and have tightly managed expenses to keep our heads above water, we are moving closer to an inflection point where we may be forced to reconsider priorities in programing and staffing.

There are two obvious avenues for addressing budgeting challenges going forward. One is enlarging our faith community by inviting and welcoming friends and newcomers to join with us in the work of worship, caregiving, and service we do together. The other is increasing our own gifts as we are able so we can continue to maintain our current level of ministries and grow them in new ways. Both avenues are deeply rooted in an awareness of and trust in God's ever-giving grace.

In the next two months we as a church will be making plans for a new financial church year and opportunities for service. Included in this will be formulating and pledging our church budget. We are confident our church community will continue to reflect our gratitude and faith through our commitments and our on-going work together. Thanks be to God.



THIS MONTH

MARCH 3

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

YOUTH BASKETBALL

OUTING 3:30PM

MARCH 5

YOUNG AT HEART

11 AM

MARCH 17

MIDWIVES OF A

MOVEMENT FILM

SCREENING

MARCH 24

PALM SUNDAY

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

10:30AM

MARCH 28

MAUNDY THURSDAY

SERVICE 6PM CHAPEL

MARCH 29

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

6PM COLUMBARIUM

MARCH 31

EASTER SUNDAY

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

10:30AM

APRIL 1

OFFICE CLOSED FOR

EASTER HOLIDAY



*Save
The
Date*

**Senior
Recognition
Sunday is
May 5th**

Missions and Ministry



Immanuel will host 8 guests from Room in the Inn on Thursday evenings this season (see dates at right).

We can help our neighbors in various ways:

- Prepare and/or serve Thursday dinner
- Serve Thursday dinner & eat with our guests (this is a very important part of the ministry!)
- Play background guitar/piano music for guests
- Supply Friday breakfast
- Supply takeaway lunches
- Transport our guests in the church van (Thursday evening & Friday morning)
- Do laundry
- Stay overnight



Room in the Inn will take place on the following Thursdays:

March 7 and 21

Please contact Pastor Stephanie to book your date in advance:
swyatt@ibcnashville.org
or 615-297-5356



>>> COLLECT CAN TABS FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE



Kay Johnson has provided a number of collection boxes (see picture at left) for the church to serve as receptacles for can tabs from canned drinks. This collection effort will benefit the Ronald McDonald House. The charity arm of the popular fast food restaurant recycles these tabs and collects the change. Over time those pennies, nickels, and dimes really add up! Look for the boxes in the Welcome Center area, in the Fellowship Hall area, and other gathering places around the church. If you have too many to fit into a box, contact Pastor Stephanie at (615) 297-5356 or swyatt@ibcnashville to make a bulk donation.



>>> EYE GLASSES COLLECTION



If you have old eye glasses that you are no longer using (of any type), please bring them to the church and place in designated collection boxes. Melanie Dover will pick up your donations and take them to a Lions Club collection point. The Lions Club has undertaken efforts to assist those with seeing impairments since 1925. The glasses will be refitted for those in need locally and globally.

Church Family News

In Memoriam

Barbara Lutz

February 17



Don't forget

Spring Forward
1 hour
March 10th



Worship Attendance

Feb 4 - 103 Feb 18 - 116
Feb 11 - 104 Feb 25 - 112



Financials

(Through January 31, 2023)

Year-to-Date Budget

\$403,692.75

Year to Date Income

\$388,338.51

Year-to-Date Actual Expense

\$370,357.34

Year-to-Date Net Income

(\$)17,981.17

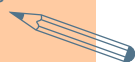
Dear IBC Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers & support during Doug's hospitalization and recovery from flu and pneumonia. We certainly felt the love, prayers and support!

Steven's visit to the hospital was so appreciated and really lifted Doug's spirits! Calls from our deacon, Susan Hawkins, and messages from our choir family meant so much.

We are on the road to a full recovery!

Sincerely,
Doug & Terri Jones



March Sanctuary Flowers

Mar 3 - Decorations Committee

Mar 10 - Decorations Committee

Mar 17 - Decorations Committee

Mar 24 - Decorations Committee

Mar 31 - Patricia Schlamp

