



The Immanuel Light

For the Living of These Days

JUNE 2021

VOL. 13 No.6

Spring Fling at Immanuel!



Wednesday, June 9, 5:30-7:30 PM

Food Truck! • Music! • Fun!

You should have received an email with a menu and order form attached. (Dessert will be provided by Evelyn Brandon.) Please contact the office by June 6 if you need assistance with your order.

Link to order form: <https://forms.gle/mhBvJPK35N5pKe7y7>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL Begins Again for ALL
Ages on Sunday, June 13!**

See page 4 for details!

The Weather Report

Fully vaccinated, I decided it was time to venture back to the YMCA. My exercise regimen for the past forty years has included some form of lifting weights. I am no longer interested in how much weight I can push, but focus rather on maintaining the strength of endurance life requires.

In March of last year, the YMCA closed for obvious reasons. I was lost at first. I scrambled to add pushups and other calisthenics to my daily routine of walking. At first, I did not miss the habit of going to the gym. Some sore muscles needed rest, and being outdoors was a lovely change of venue.

In time, I began to miss my routine. Kathleen Norris observes, “The human need for routine is such that even homeless people establish it the best they can, walking the same streets, sleeping in the same spots, in an attempt to maintain basic relationships with people and places.”¹ Soon I detected my strength diminishing. I missed the adrenaline rush that often accompanied the end of my workouts.

The mental gymnastics required to return to the gym caught me off guard. I sat out my gym bag and remembered the combination for my lock only to manufacture a reason for delay. This happened more than once. I came to realize the habit had been broken. The realization rendered me nonplused. I had to launch myself anew with a decided initiative.

At the time of this issue of The Weather Report, I have been to the gym three times. Muscle memory, like flying on autopilot, took over. The workouts flowed. I remembered the various muscle groups, the specific exercise, and the number of repetitions for each set. The nearly fifteen month hiatus did not prevent resumption of the routine. The habit of going to the gym was natural and instinctual.

The experience of returning to the YMCA set me to thinking. For some, the pandemic suspended in-person worship. “Going to church” grinded to a stop for all. Months later, our late friend David George remarked in a conversation, “For those for whom church was a habit, the habit has been broken.” Mindful of the effort required for me to enter the gym again, I wondered if something similar would be the experience of people deciding to return to church.

Reengaging as a faith community is our priority. Connections were maintained over the past year through live streaming of worship, zoom meetings and gatherings, and many, many phone calls, and handwritten correspondence. Now that restrictions on gathering in groups have been relaxed, we turn our attention on being in the presence of our church family again. What will it take to launch this habit again.

To this end, we will gather on Wednesday evening June 9 around the pavilion for a time of fellowship. The evening will consist of a meal catered by Tennessee Tatercakes (more information is forthcoming), a sing along with a Bluegrass flavor, reports on summer programming and the resumption of Sunday School for all ages, and a large measure of togetherness. I would underscore the latter.

“Summer’s here, I’m for that,” so begins a James Taylor song by that title. “Summer’s here” and our life together resumes. The means of repeating the ebb and flow of being a church family will enhance the relationships that nourished and sustained us through a year of pandemic living. May we take advantage of every occasion to practice our habit.

—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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¹ Norris, Kathleen. *Acedia & Me*. P.187.

Our Graduating Seniors Received Their Bibles



Josiah Baker



Sophia Brown



Malcolm Horner

Newly Refurbished Picnic Tables in Place

Thanks to Immanuel's own "Wise Men Construction" team, the wooden picnic tables in the backyard have been completely refurbished. They look great! Thanks, fellas, for your HARD work!!!



It was quite a transformation from the way the old tables looked to the new wood our construction team put in place!



Passportkids

Please be in prayer for the seven Immanuel kids and two chaperones (Stephanie Wyatt and Andrew Tonks)



who will attend Passportkids at Berea College in Kentucky June 22-25. Please pray for our safety, good health, and open hearts as we engage this year's theme: Story. Participants will

experience God through Bible Study, worship, mission education, games, crafts, and play.



Calling All Creatives & Those Who Love Children

IBC Family Vacation Bible School will take place July 27-29 from 5pm to 8pm each night. We will be studying and engaging the story of the prophet Jonah. If you have a talent or a gift you would like to share with the children or are simply willing to show up and take direction, Pastor Stephanie will be happy (and grateful) to plug you in. Please email her at swyatt@ibc-nashville.org or call on her cell 865-406-7154 to volunteer.

Sunday School Returns for All Ages in June!

Beginning June 13 we will have in-person Sunday School offerings for all age groups each Sunday at 9:15 am. Classes will be consolidated over the summer as we transition towards a full resumption of church activities in the fall.

Preschool children will meet upstairs in the older preschool room with teachers Debbie Maxwell, Jill Cooper, and Betty Kay Wasserman.

Children in grades 1-6 will meet in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Stephanie & Company. Children's Sunday School will be consolidated through the end of July. The children will gather for a special time together in the Fellowship Hall August 1st before dismissing to their graded classes for the beginning of the fall semester.

*****Due to the reality that vaccines are not yet available for children under age 12, we ask that the children and teachers mask during Sunday School for the safety of everyone. Those not fully vaccinated, immunosuppressed and those who choose will continue to wear masks.*****

Youth will meet with Youth Minister Andrew Tonks. Location TBA.

Currently, the adults are meeting for Sunday School at 9:15am in the chapel. Check your email for additional information about adult offerings starting June 13.



Save the Date!!

Wednesday evening activities will be resuming on August 11

NEW DEACON and BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS ELECTED

Tim Reynolds will serve as chair of deacons for 2021-2022; Laurie Woods will serve as secretary.

Claude Huguley will serve as president of the Board of Directors for 2021-2022; Scott Newman will serve as secretary.

Church Family News

PRAYER LIST

- Marjorie Johnson
- Belle Butler
- Jerry Warren

BEREAVEMENT

Sympathy is extended to Richard Shadinger on the death of his brother, Jim, who died in late April in Carrollton, GA; to Nancy Huguley and Laralee Page on the death of father and grandfather, Dan Ward, who died May 22 in Nashville.

LORD'S SUPPER NOTE

The Communion bread we serve each month during Lord's Supper is gluten free.

Sanctuary Flowers

June 6 - given by Jeanie and Tim Reynolds in honor of Mary Kirk and in memory of Art Kirk and Bill and Mary Lou Reynolds.

June 13 - given by Don and Sue Lockmiller in loving memory of Bobbie Lockmiller.

June 20 - given in loving memory of Sara and Wallace Holleman by their children, Key Holleman, Allison Hancock, and George Holleman.

June 27 - given in loving memory of husband, father, and grandfather, Don Johnson, by Kay, Courtney, Peter, Anna, Erik, Benjamin, Tatum and Dixon.

SPECIAL NOTE: The date of July 11 is still available for giving the sanctuary flowers this year. Please contact Charles Businaro if you are interested.

Thank you to EVERYONE who donated penne pasta and diced tomatoes as our Ingathering project for Nashville Food Project!!

And Thank You to Andrew Tonks and Charlie Lutz for delivering the van load of pasta and tomatoes to NFP.



happy birthday to you!

June 2

Carolyn Easterly

June 3

Lyla Gnetz

June 4

Bob Belew

June 6

Donna Greek

June 7

Elizabeth Sanford

An Tran

June 14

Caroline Newman

June 17

Edmond Jarnigan

Tammy Drolsum

June 21

Carolyn Campbell

June 23

Michael Nguyen

June 25

Rebecca Dean

Jack Vaughn

June 28

Jennifer Ervin

Sidney Maddox

June 29

Lauren Clouse

Becky Gore

Faye Roberts



Calendar of Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

5:00 Youth ZOOM
6:30 Adult Choir rehearsal

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

9:00 Children's ZOOM SS
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Worship/Lord's
Supper/Fellowship Offering

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

5:30 Spring Fling!

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

6:30 Stewardship ZOOM

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

9:15 Sunday School All Ages
10:30 Worship

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

6:30 Deacons' Meeting ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

5:00 Children/Youth Outdoor Fellowship
6:30 Adult Choir rehearsal

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

9:15 Sunday School All Ages
10:30 Worship

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

PASSPORT KIDS CAMP

June 22-25

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

5:00 Youth Outdoor Fellowship
6:30 Adult Choir rehearsal

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

DESSERTS FOR LUKE 14:12

9:15 Sunday School All Ages
10:30 Worship

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

5:00 Children/Youth Outdoor Fellowship
6:30 Adult Choir rehearsal

Special Times with IBC Folks!



Dinner with Laddie Neil!



We recognized Becky Atkinson and Marilyn Shadinger as they both retired from Immanuel.



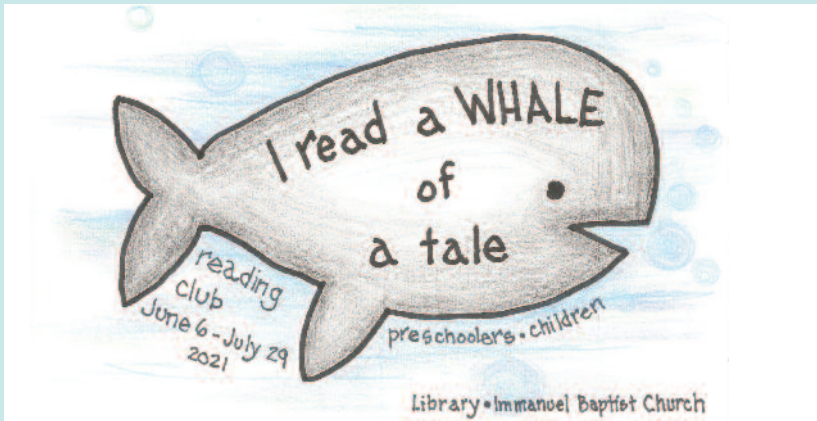
Desserts for Luke 14:12

Our ministry partner Luke 14:12 is currently still unable to take in-person volunteers. As an alternative, they are asking us to regularly participate in preparing desserts for the meals they continue to prepare for their guests, the hungry, homeless, and working poor of Nashville.

Each month you are invited to contribute personal-sized desserts and individually wrap each one. Dessert options could include cookies, brownies, pastries, or anything else along these lines. Please wrap the desserts in plastic bags or plastic wrap and write the number of desserts you are contributing on the bag or box you deliver them in. Our goal is to provide a week's worth of desserts, 600, which will be collected on the last Sunday of each month.

Our first collection date will be June 27. You may drop off your desserts in the church kitchen. We look forward to continuing to support Luke 14:12 in this way.

Please let Pastor Stephanie know (swyatt@ibcnashville.org or 615-297-5356) if you plan to participate and how many desserts you will be providing. Thank you in advance.



Guidelines for Preschool & Children's Summer Reading Club June 6- July 29

1. Sign up in the library to participate. Begin signing up on Sunday, June 6.
2. Check out books from Immanuel's library to read or to have read to you.
3. Each participant can check out 3 books at a time and must read at least 5 books.
4. When returning the book(s) you have read, choose a "book" cut-out from the basket in the library and write your name on one side and the title of the book on the other side. The "book" will then will be placed under your whale on the bulletin board outside the library. Reading club ends July 29.
5. Each participant will be recognized on Sunday, August 1, during children's Sunday School and will receive a book to take home.



Enjoy a WHALE of a tale!!!

Thank You to Andrew Tonks and our Youth for restaining and sealing the playhouse on the children's playground! It looks great!

