



# The Immanuel Light

*For the Living of These Days*

JANUARY 2021

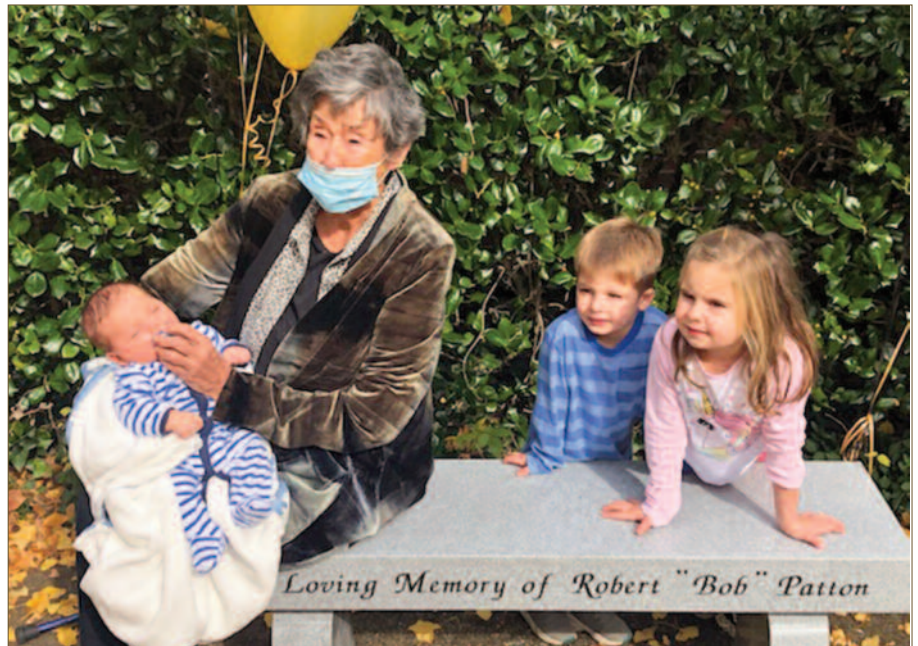
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## We Have New Benches!

A new granite bench has been placed in the courtyard in memory of Bob Patton by his children. At right, Billie and three of their great-grandchildren are enjoying the new seat!

Two new teak benches have been placed at the columbarium (Kenny Cooper and Steven Meriwether put them together) in memory of Don and Sue Jones by some of their friends.

We hope you will enjoy the beautiful new outdoor seating!



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LIBRARY?

Entering data from Immanuel's library collection into the automated library system is progressing nicely. Almost 1900 books have been processed to date, including all of the books for preschool/children and upper elementary as well as fiction and biography. And, we are almost finished with Biblical research and devotional books! Thanks to the good work of Kay, Elaine, Carol, Betty Kay, Jill and Georgina.

The library team is already dreaming of an open house when the automated system is fully online. This will occur early in 2021.

The library continues to be accessible. You may stop by anytime the church office is open.

New books are regularly added to our collection. Look for these on the shelves across from the circulation desk:

*His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope* by John Meacham

*Caste: the Origins of Our Discontent* by Isabel Wilkerson

*Why? Because We Still Love You: An Oral History of the Mickey Mouse Club* by Jennifer Keishin Armstrong

*The Man Called Cash: the Life, Love and Faith of an American Legend* by Steve Turner

Also these books have been given in memory of Don and Sue Jones:

*The World Needs More Purple People* by Kristen Bell and Benjamin Hart

*The Moral Teaching of Paul: Selected Issues* by Victory Paul Furnish

*Godstories: New Narratives from Sacred Texts* by H. Stephen Shoemaker

*Seekers, Saints, and Sinners: Life*

*Changing Encounters with Jesus* by H. Stephen Shoemaker

*Eager to Love: The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi* by Richard Rohr

*Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr

And these in memory of Charles Martin's sisters, Sarah Miller and Ouida Shows:

*The Very Last Leaf* by Stef Wade

*Everything Beautiful in Its Time: Seasons of Love and Loss*, by Jenna Bush Hager



### 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

Steven Meriwether

smeriwether@ibcnashville.org

#### Associate Pastor

Stephanie Wyatt

swyatt@ibcnashville.org

#### Minister of Youth

Andrew Tonks

atonks@ibcnashville.org

#### Organist

Richard Shadinger

richard.shadinger@belmont.edu

#### Associate Minister of Music

Marilyn Shadinger

mwshadinger@comcast.net

#### Secretary/Editor

Deborah Maxwell

dmaxwell@ibcnashville.org

#### Financial Secretary

Jenny Dean

jdean@ibcnashville.org

#### Secretary

Ann Conn

aconn@ibcnashville.org

#### Parents' Day Out Director

Becky Atkinson

kentuckyfan80@comcast.net

#### Pastor Emeritus

David George

#### Minister of Music Emeritus

Beryl Vick

# Church Family News

## PRAYER LIST

- Marjorie Johnson
- Jennie Mills
- Sue Conn
- Randy Dover
- David George
- Ike and Mina Harris

## BEREAVEMENT

Sympathy is extended to **Claude Huguley, Nathan Huguley, and Laralee Page** on the death of father and grandfather, Bobby Huguley, who died November 27; to **Judy Parker** on the death of her husband, Larry, who died December 7.

## IN MEMORIAM

### RENALD EICHLER

28 May 1935 ~ 7 December 2020

Joined Immanuel

16 January 1983

### CHARLSIE MATTHEWS

14 March 1930 ~ 21 December 2020

Joined Immanuel

3 May 1970

## Sanctuary Flowers

**January 3** - given in honor of Immanuel's faithful who continue to provide service music.

**January 10** - given by the Grigsby Sunday School Class in loving memory of Sara Grigsby.

**January 17** - given in loving memory of Jimmy Hugh Wyatt, beloved dad and father-in-law, who is much missed by Stephanie Wyatt and Adam DJ Brett.

**January 24** - given by Richard and Marilyn Shadinger in honor of their children and grandchildren.

**January 31** - given by Mary Louise Murphy in loving memory of Wayne Murphy.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER GRADUATE!

Aden Drolsum graduated in December from the University of Denver with a Masters in Social Work. Congratulations, Aden!

## THANK YOU

*The worship committee and Immanuel staff would like to thank those individuals who contributed an Advent devotional this year. You recognized the difficulties facing us in this strange time while also giving us glimpses of hope for the future. You shared from your hearts as well as from the wisdom you have gleaned from others along the way.*

*Music referenced ranged from the musical stylings of Carly Simon to the symphonic grandor of Beethoven to the aching hymnody of Rodolfo Gaede. Themes ranged from our own human frailty to the joy we take in our care for one another. You blessed us with your insights into the faith we all share. We are grateful that you chose to give the gift of yourselves this Advent season.*

*Miriam Tate, Coordinator of the Worship Committee*

*Stephanie Wyatt, Associate Pastor*

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the Immanuel community for the many expressions of support and prayers for our family following the recent death of my dad. Your support continues to give us strength and comfort.

—Claude Huguley



January 7 and  
January 21

# Deacon Nomination Process Begins January 17

The three-week period for nominating deacons to replace those completing their current terms begins January 17. During that time all Immanuel members will have the opportunity to nominate up to three members to “assist the church in the accomplishment of its total mission.”

• **Deacon Role and Function:** Collecting the offering, serving the Lord’s Supper, and looking after a deacon care group may be the most noticeable services they perform, but according to our Bylaws, the active deacons also work with the pastor and staff “with the goal of guiding the church and its members in worship, in service and ministry, and in effective use of the church’s personal and corporate resources.” They also serve “as advisors to the congregation, pastor, and staff in all areas of the church’s life. They plan, review, evaluate, and recommend to the congregation proposals for improving the effectiveness of the church’s worship, witness, education, ministry, and fellowship.”

• **Nomination forms (ballots):** Shortly before January 17, deacon nomination forms will be distributed at church and by email. Anyone who needs to have a form sent by mail should contact the church office. For quick reference, a list of resident church members who, as of January 17, are eligible to serve as deacon will be distributed with the nomination forms. The same list will be posted on the bulletin board beside the library. (For a more complete discussion of qualifications, see Article III Section 6 of the Bylaws at right.)

• **Nomination period:** Nominations may be submitted anytime from Sunday, January 17, through Sunday noon, February 14. After prayerful consideration, all members are asked to recommend up to three people they believe to be best qualified. Each member should fold the unsigned nomination form, place it in an envelope, then seal the envelope, print his/her name on the outside, and drop it in one of the two ballot boxes (near the church office and near the library), place it in the Sunday morning offering plate, or mail it to the church office in time to be received no later than Friday, February 12. Forms may also be submitted on Sunday, February 14, until noon.

• **And then:** A tabulating committee composed of outgoing deacons will check names to be sure the voter is a member, separate ballots from envelopes so that privacy is ensured, then unfold ballots and prepare a list of nominees ranked according to number of nominations

received. The church administrative staff will pass the resulting list of nominees to the Committee on Deacons. The Committee on Deacons will contact the nominees, in order of nominations received, asking them to consider serving for three years beginning May 1, and inviting them to meet with the Committee before accepting or declining. A slate of three nominees who have accepted the call to serve will be presented for approval at the annual business meeting in April.

• **Now:** Please pray for God’s guidance as we join together in this significant church-life process.

—Committee on Deacons

*Lerma Hearn, Claude Huguley, Debbie Maxwell*

## Article III, Section 6 of Bylaws

**Eligibility and Qualification of Deacons.** To be eligible for service as a deacon of Immanuel Baptist Church, persons at the time the deacon ballots are distributed pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of these bylaws shall: (1) be a resident member of Immanuel Baptist Church; (2) be at least twenty-five years of age; (3) have been a member of Immanuel Baptist Church for at least one year; (4) have actively participated in the life of the church, by being a member of a church committee or being elected to a church office (i.e., treasurer, Sunday School teacher, etc.), at some point within the three years preceding their nomination; and (5) have financially supported the church, either personally or through their family giving unit, during each year of their membership or during each of the three years preceding their nomination, whichever period of time is shorter. Deacons should reflect those qualities that the church expects of its members including regular church attendance and financial support of the church. Persons nominated to serve as deacons should also agree to commit their time to serve a deacon care group, to attend deacons’ meetings regularly, and to study carefully the teachings of scripture before agreeing to serve. They also should examine the church covenant as an expression of what the church calls each of its members to be and to do.

# Calendar of Events

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**  
 10:30 Worship  
 9:00 Children's ZOOM SS  
 9:15 Sunday School  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 7**  
 6:00 RITI  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**  
 10:30 Worship  
 9:00 Children's ZOOM SS  
 9:15 Sunday School  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14**

6:30 Stewardship ZOOM  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**  
 10:30 Worship  
 9:00 Children's ZOOM SS  
 9:15 Sunday School  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 19**  
 6:00 Deacons' ZOOM  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 21**  
 6:00 RITI  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24**  
 10:30 Worship

9:00 Children's ZOOM SS  
 9:15 Sunday School  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31**  
 10:30 Worship  
 9:00 Children's ZOOM SS  
 9:15 Sunday School

<p><u>January 1</u> Cathy Fleming</p> <p><u>January 2</u> Betty Kay Wasserman</p> <p>Bill Vo</p> <p><u>January 4</u> Ralph Atkinson</p> <p><u>January 7</u> Martha Bomboy</p> <p><u>January 12</u> David George Martha Winston Jerry Warren</p>	<p><u>January 15</u> Tim Reynolds</p> <p><u>January 17</u> Sims Crownover</p> <p><u>January 18</u> Charlie Newman Marie Burr</p> <p><u>January 22</u> Jonah Wilkerson</p> <p><u>January 27</u> Laurie Woods Ian Jarnigan Randy Dover</p>	<p><u>January 28</u> Maddie Gore</p> <p>Jackie Easterling</p> <p><u>January 29</u> Susie Belew</p> <p><u>January 31</u> Grace Norman-Wilson</p>
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## January Birthdays

## Opportunity to Help Luke 14:12

Just as we will celebrate the gifts the magi brought to the young Jesus on Epiphany Sunday, Immanuel members and friends have a chance to spread some holiday cheer in our community in the upcoming weeks.

Luke 14:12 has had to significantly adapt its practices and procedures in order to meet the needs of hungry members of our community during COVID-19. Every Monday staff members from Luke 14:12 prepare 600 meals that feed hungry Nashvillians throughout that week.

Staff members of Luke 14:12 ask that we assist in that monumental task by preparing 600 homemade and individually wrapped desserts that will accompany the meals for a single week (we know that's a big number, but they will take as many as we can make). To make it simpler, we are suggesting that we all make brownies (the type of brownie is up to you).

Special Instructions: Desserts can be wrapped in plastic wrap, plastic baggies, or whatever type of wrapping is easiest for you. Please mark your bag or box with the num-

ber of individually wrapped goodies inside for the purpose of sorting.

We will be collecting these desserts on Epiphany Sunday, January 10, 2021 for delivery the next morning. For those attending worship in person that Sunday, please drop off your desserts in the kitchen area.

Coming Soon:

The Immanuel Book Club is planning to hold a Zoom meeting in the near future. This will give us a chance to share information about books we have been reading and re-connect as a group. We also hope that this will be a means to bring new readers into our reading activities. Look for information about this soon.

The dark days of winter are perfect for reading and sharing books, so I look forward to this new venture.

—Richard Shadinger

# Children's Ministry Update



As I look back on the past year and forward to the next, it has been my great joy to get to know the families and children of Immanuel, though we have had to be creative about how we gather in the time of COVID-19.

I give thanks for all the wonderful things we have done since I joined Immanuel in June of 2020.

Water Wednesdays in July and August, which included water play as well as outdoor Bible Study and activities.

Wednesday Wonderings, our continued play and gathering outdoors through the fall where we wondered together about the stories of children in the Bible. We played numerous games of kick-ball and even got the parents involved. We decorated pumpkins for Pastor Steven to take to our friends at home on his visits.

Fall Fest, though our festivities were “in-house” this year, we still gathered in costume for a variety of food, games, relays, prizes, and of course, a pumpkin hunt.

The Sunday of the Ingathering, the children gathered for an outdoor picnic following worship and discussed the Christmas story from Luke. The children's observations were featured in the Advent devotion for December 24th.

Thanks to the incredible efforts of Grover Baker and Melanie Dover, the 1st-3rd grade Sunday School has

continued via Zoom conference almost uninterrupted since the spring shutdown. The families have been very supportive of Melanie during Randy's stay in the hospital, making a video to share their love, concerns, and prayers.

This Advent, the older children (4th–6th) gathered via Zoom for a study of Superheroes and Faith with Pastor Stephanie and Adam DJ Brett, where we examined questions such as: What makes a hero? Are you born a hero or do you choose to become one? Who are our favorite superheroes in popular culture? Who are “superheroes” in the Bible? We discussed figures such as Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Deborah, Sampson, Gideon, David, Elisha, as well as Jesus and the disciples. We explored how superheroes and biblical heroes enact Spiderman's motto: “With great power comes great responsibility.”

Additionally, each family received packets of materials (either in print or via email) to assist them with crafting rituals and practices at home to observe Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.

Blessings, Pastor Stephanie

If anyone is not receiving regular updates about Immanuel's Children's Ministry, please contact me so that I can update your contact information. You may call me at church 615-297-5356, on my cell 865-406-7154, or via email [swyatt@ibcnashville.org](mailto:swyatt@ibcnashville.org).

## Passport Camps Extend Deadlines

**Passport Camps** have extended the deadline for registration in order that they as an organization and we as potential attendees have a better sense of the COVID-19 situation. Please contact Pastor Stephanie or Pastor Andrew for further information.

**Passport Kids** will be June 22–25 at Berea College in Berea, KY Cost: \$350 per child. A deposit of \$100.00 is now due March 1st. Remainder due April 1st.

**Passport (Youth)** will be July 5–10 at Furman University in Greenville, SC. Cost \$500 per child Deposit of \$125.00 due March 1st. Remainder is due April 1st.

