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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5955 South Elm Avenue
Fresno, California 93706

Ministry Staff

Pastor: Rev. Taylor Stempniak
Office Secretary: Victoria Salwasser
Chimes Editor: Victoria Salwasser
Organist: Laurel Jacobsen

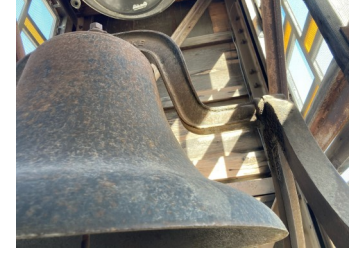
Immanuel's Church Council

President: Mark Salwasser
Vice President: Kristi Hollenbeck
Council Secretary: Allyson Kahn
Financial Secretary: Sharon Reynolds
Treasurer: Pat Griffin
Trustees: Mike Moser, Daniel Hartwig
Deacons: Carol Bennetts, Gina Cogan,
Allyson Nielsen, John Jensen
Women's Ministry President: Marcia Hollenbeck

**CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE AT
10:30AM AND
9:00PM
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO EVERYONE!**

Return Service Requested

**The Immanuel
Chimes
January 2024**



Immanuel Lutheran Church

A Mission of the North American Lutheran Church

5955 South Elm Avenue

Fresno (Easton), California 93706

Church Telephone (559) 237-7909

Email: office@immanueleaston.com

Email/Pastor: ptmarie96@gmail.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUNDAYS

9:30AM Sunday School in Grace Hall

10:30AM Worship & Communion

**Church wide celebration of Epiphany of our
Lord January 7, 2024 see the Children's
Sunday School Article inside.**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Annual
Congregational Meeting will be on
January 28, 2024 Following Worship**

**The Russ Dunbar Memorial Blood Drive
Will also be on January 28th from
9:00am-12:00PM**

PASTOR'S PAGE

“What’s your dad like?” “Quiet,” I said, and then I grinned. “I take after him.” My colleagues laughed. Nice try, but they definitely didn’t buy that last line.

This question comes up more than you would think around other pastors, and I always find it hard to answer. Growing up, my dad worked hard during the week, and spent every Saturday under a car or in the woods hunting. Sunday he was in church in a blue button-down shirt. He can fix anything. My friends never heard him talk. I know him to be one of the funniest people around.

“Okay, what’s one thing your dad taught you?”

“Oh,” I paused. I’d forgotten these particular colleagues are also friends, and these are the kind of questions pastor friends ask each other. My dad taught me to change a tire, to bait a hook, to always tip well. My dad has taught me a lot of small things and big things, but there was one thing I wanted these pastors to hear. It’s my dad’s birthday at the end of January, so there’s one thing I want you to hear too. “My dad taught me the meaning of sacrifice. He taught me what it meant to love his family like Christ loved the church.”

In Ephesians 5, when Paul writes instructions for Christian households. “Wives submit to your husbands as the church submits to Christ. Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the church.” I’ve heard so many pastors preach sermons and write books about how this version of Biblical manhood means a husband should be willing to die for his wife. They paint fantastic pictures about gunmen storming into the room or a wife needing a kidney, and the husband’s heroic sacrifice of the body, “just like Christ.” That’s cinematic and creates an image of the world where a woman submits to her husband’s wisdom daily because he is hypothetically willing to sacrifice himself in a situation that he is highly unlikely to ever be called upon to do.

Let me tell you how Christ loved the church. He abandoned heaven and took on flesh to be to spend time with us. He who created the universe humbled himself that much. He didn’t just want to make an appearance. He wanted to live alongside us, at fish fries and wedding feasts and funerals. He looked at the apostles and he recognized their gifts, and he nurtured them, teaching them, forgiving them, encouraging them. From Peter to Paul to Matthew to Mary, Christ encourages and equips those in his



RESET

A highly experiential giving and generosity intensive

for pastors, council members, stewardship teams, finance teams
and any interested congregational members.

Saturday, February 3, 2024

10:30 a.m. (after CPMD Annual Meeting)

St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 5100 Camden Ave., San Jose

You will learn how to...

- **Rethink** faith and giving practices in your congregation to inspire and nurture a culture of generosity.
- **Engage** new biblical understandings to test assumptions and misperceptions about Jesus, money and possessions.
- **Synthesize** what you learn to become clearer and calmer in your preaching, teaching and providing administrative leadership in financial matters.
- **Envision** your own personal story and your congregation’s story within God’s greater story of building legacy of faithful witness.
- **Transform** giving from a purely transactional pay-the-bills mindset to embracing the vision and mission of God.

Reset your spiritual vision of faith and giving
and expand your understanding about Jesus, money, and possessions
to move giving and generosity from a purely transactional practice to a transformational one.

Sponsored by Central Pacific California
Contact: Rev. Taylor Stempniak, Dean, at ptmarie96@gmail.com



NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
LIVING AND GIVING MINISTRY

CPMD ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2023

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

LUNCH PROVIDED!

Worship & Fellowship

Gather together to worship the Lord alongside your neighbor. Meet new friends and greet familiar faces from local congregations and the national church.

Ministry Renewal

Participate in workshops from experts on stewardship for your local congregation and learn about how to best support local missions.

Shape the church

Elect the next dean and get important updates about the youth gathering, the discernment retreat, and more.

EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!



St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

5100 Camden Street

San Jose, CA 95124



RSVP by January 17th to

Dean Taylor: ptmarie96@gmail.com



path to serve the kingdom of God. Then in the garden, when Christ himself is afraid of the crucifixion, he prays to the Father for deliverance, but ultimately submits to God's will anyway and dies for us all. Then—most importantly!—rises again. Christ doesn't just die for the church. He lives for it. We do not worship a dead God. We worship a living one. That's kind of the whole point.

My dad is a brilliant engineer and the bread winner of our family. He is indispensable to his company. He's on call all the time, but he also married a woman who he recognized as a brilliant teacher and a coach. He wanted to love her the way Christ loved the apostles. He wanted her to use her gifts to build up children, and the kingdom of God. He was willing to dedicate everything he had to make that as successful as possible. That didn't mean he threw himself in front of a bullet. It meant he took his kids to the ballfield and cheered on his wife even after a long day at the office and commute home. He cooked dinners most nights. He'd do the grocery runs on the way home from work. He'd help my brothers and I wash dishes or vacuum floors. We folded laundry together. (He still hates doing the socks. That was always my job.) Here's the wildest part: my mom never asked him to. He just began doing it, even after long hours, even though he made more money. Even though he was the man. He did this out of a pure, practical, crazy, sacrificial love.

Years later, when my mom answered a call to ministry, my dad's support was as full and sacrificial as it had been when she was coaching long hours. Even when her call took her two hours from home, that love never wavered once. When the world called him crazy, he said that plenty of people had spouses deployed by the military, but his was deployed by God. He was just grateful they got to spend part of their week together. All of those pastors who say biblical manhood is being willing to die for your family aren't entirely wrong. I've watched my father die. He's died a thousand times, for my mom, for my brothers, for me, for his parents, for his in-laws. I've seen him die for strangers on the street. He's died to himself more times than I can count. He dies like Christ in the garden, by asking himself, "What does God want?" and doing it, even when it's not what he wants. He dies asking himself, "What does my family need?" and doing it, even when it's not what he wants. I don't know if "What do I want?" is truly the last question my dad asks himself or if it's just the last question he follows, but I know that's what it means to put yourself to death. That's what it means to love your wife and your family as Christ loves the church.

Please don't read this and think my father's life has only been suffering. There has been hunting and fishing and football games and dirt track races and Jimmy Buffett concerts. I have seen the genuine delight he

takes at serving the perfect meal and keeping the books for baseball games. We have loved him back and there has been joy in the midst of all of it too. God's ways are hard, but they are also good. Don't read it and think he's Christ either. I may not be quiet, but I'm strong-willed and short tempered, and I did, in fact, get those things from my father. More than once in my childhood and adulthood, he apologized to one of us for things that were done or left undone. As his daughter, I certainly have to do the same all the time. That's what my dad has taught me. And he has taught me where to look when he falls short too. We are called to be imitators of Christ, but we cannot be Christ himself.

No matter who your earthly father or husband may be, whether they are wonderful or wretched or somewhere in between, our Father in heaven and Christ the husband of the church still offer a love more redeeming than even the one I knew in my childhood home. As voices try to give us instructions on how to be biblical men or women or families, let us not forget what Christ's love actually looks like. Christ's love is much more than a singular death. This love swallows the deaths of sin and sacrifice daily, so that we know new life each morning and may be unafraid to lay down our lives each day. The Husband of our Church is patient with you. The Father in Heaven is kind to you. Christ protects you and lives on this day for you. His love for you is never failing, never self-seeking, never keeping records of your wrongs, but always looking for the eternal paradise to come and hoping for the transformative grace of our Lord's mercy. All else may fade away—prophecies, tongues, tombs, and even our families—but this love our God holds for you will not fade away. This love will endure. That is what redeems us. That is what we look to. That is how Christ loves his church. That is how he loves you.

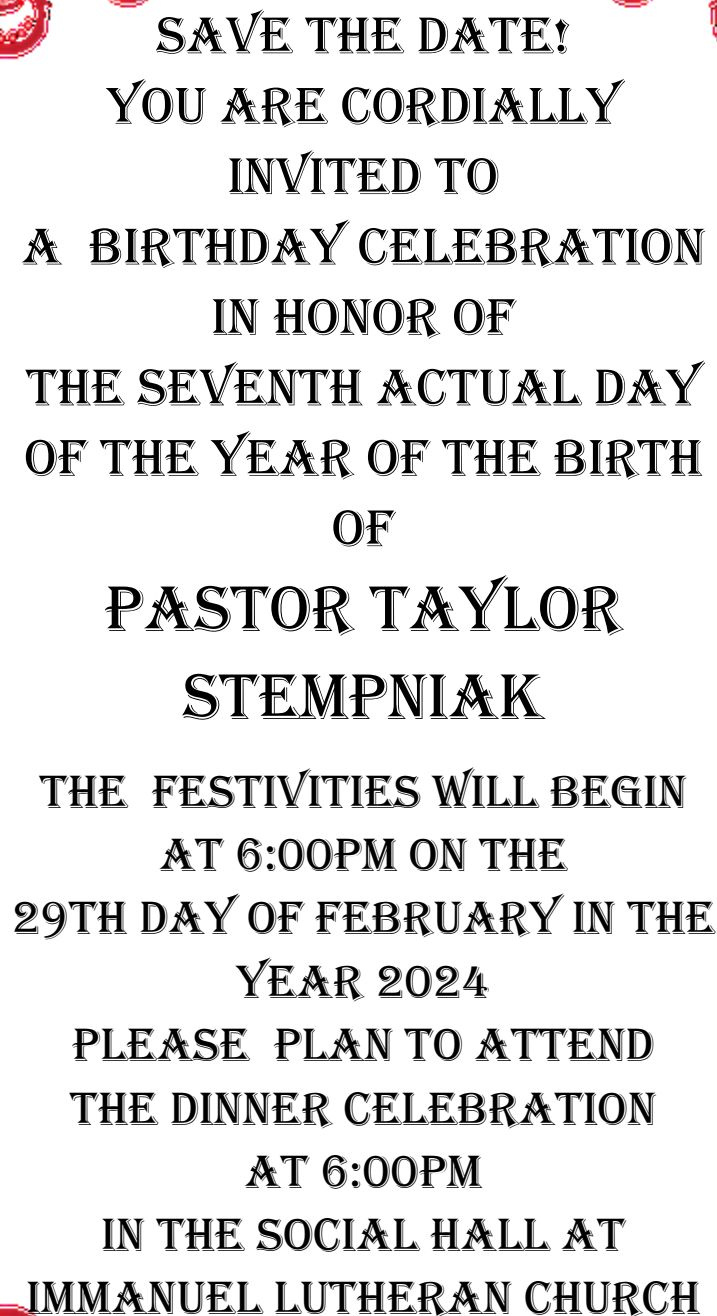
Blessings to you,
Pastor Taylor

CENTRAL PACIFIC MISSION DISTRICT

Our Mission District's Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, February 3rd at 9:30 am at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in San Jose, and everyone is invited to attend to get updates about regional events and national news. This year is a special year for two reasons: first, we'll be electing a dean so it allows you to get to know who your new dean will be, and second, I've invited the NALC's stewardship committee to host a workshop for the congregations in our Mission District.

This workshop is geared towards helping congregations develop a healthy and holistic relationship with stewardship and examining how we can best utilize the resources-- our talents, time, treasure, and testimony-- that we've been entrusted with to care for God's Kingdom, our church, and our community. With our hope to begin construction on the social hall, now is a very important time for us to consider how the Lord has already blessed our church and how we can use the gifts we've been given wisely. This workshop is open to anyone who wants to attend and lunch will be provided. There will be a time for worship afterward. Please sign up on the bulletin board before January 15th! I encourage you to attend.

Pastor Taylor



SAVE THE DATE!
YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO
A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
IN HONOR OF
THE SEVENTH ACTUAL DAY
OF THE YEAR OF THE BIRTH
OF
PASTOR TAYLOR
STEMPNIAK
THE FESTIVITIES WILL BEGIN
AT 6:00PM ON THE
29TH DAY OF FEBRUARY IN THE
YEAR 2024
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND
THE DINNER CELEBRATION
AT 6:00PM
IN THE SOCIAL HALL AT
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hope Lutheran Church

CRAB FEED

featuring Live Auction and entertainment by Ripe for Pickin'

Friday, February 2, 2024 @ 6:00 pm

5435 N Fresno St | Fresno, CA 93710 // 559.439.4320



Benefiting Hope's Youth, Young Adult Group/Overboard, and the General Fund.

For more info on sponsorship and ads, or to purchase tickets, scan the QR Code or visit hopelutheranfresno.org/crabfeed

Become an Event Sponsor!

\$1000 includes:
VIP Table, premium bottle of wine, and a half-page ad in the event program

Place an ad in our program

Limited business card spaces available for \$75 each

Ticket Prices

Individual Tickets: \$75
Children 12+under: \$20
Table of 8: \$600



FRESNO-WASHINGTON FFA



EST. 1930

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL DINNER FUNDRAISER

Saturday, January 27th, 2024
C.P.D.E.S Hall in Easton
Tickets \$50.00 Each

NEW YORK STEAK DINNER

No Host Cocktails 5:30pm
Dinner 7:00pm

SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT
OUR STUDENTS AND CHAPTER

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT AMY VIVENZI
OR REACH OUT TO ANY FFA MEMBER

amy.vivenzi@wusd.ws or (559) 485-8805 ext. 6083

JOURNEY

One of my dearest friends asked me if I had an extra copy of “Good Grief”, my go to book for dealing with grief. Good Grief was written by Granger E. Westberg, it’s a great little book/guide on dealing with grief, I highly recommend it. I try to always have a couple of extra books around, just for that very purpose. A friend of theirs had expressed the “lostness” of adjusting to a loss. And so I was reminded of the reason I started writing these articles that you are now reading. So I’m going to go back to the beginning and revisit the journey that I have been on for the last 7 and a half years.

I apologize that I sometimes lose sight of the fact that for some of you this is a very new journey. Why journey? I really do see it that way. We are instantaneously thrown off in a completely foreign place and we must try to find our way to some place where we can once again begin to feel okay with ourselves. It’s a long journey indeed, we take small uncertain steps in an unfamiliar direction. Sometimes we feel good with where we are going. Sometimes we feel like we are doing a Michael Jackson moonwalk. For some it’s an all-out assault on our senses, especially if you are one who likes to plan your course. Life truly becomes a “one day at a time adventure”.

I am no grief specialist, I’m a guy who has been incredibly blessed to have family and friends who have been very supportive. Not to discourage you but, this is a journey you must take largely on your own. Your situation is unique to you; no one else has your set of circumstances. But.... There are some things you can do to mitigate the load you are carrying.

There are some things that we can lean in on together to help on this journey. Everyone has lost someone dear to them. We’ve lost grandparents, aunts and uncles, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters and even children. These are all hard and heavy burdens to carry. Again, your journey is your journey. And where you are on that journey is where you are, embrace it. You can choose to live in loneliness and heartbreak. Please don’t take that path. It’s too hard. It’s too heavy. It will break you down. As soon as you can, push yourself back towards the surface. Reach out to others who have also lost. We understand where you are. We feel the utter pain that you feel and in fact your pain will remind us of our pain. Pain shared is definitely the way to go. Pick someone you trust and ask them to walk along side of you. In turn, you will be helping them to walk as well. One of the major reasons I write these articles is so

SIGN UPS FOR 2024

Altar Flowers, Scripture Readers, Fellowship Servers

The new sign-up sheets are hanging up on the blue bulletin board in the church entryway. If you would like to sign up for a special day to place flowers on the altar for Sunday Worship, or read scriptures during worship or serve refreshments after church, sign up on the sheets or call the church office for more information.

FAMILY CAMP 2024

Save The Dates: June 7-14 2024

**Logger Flat Group Campground
near Hume Lake!**

**Sign Up on the Gold Bulletin Board!
It’s difficult to reserve this spot so we have to
take the dates we get.**

**Please plan to join us and bring your family and
make memories that last a lifetime!**

RUSS DUNBAR MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVES IN 2024

9:00AM-12:00PM

January 28th

March 24th

May 19th

August 11th

October 13th

December 8th

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH

For Christ's Church: Eternal God, we thank You for Your Church through which the gospel of Jesus Christ has been manifest in every age.

Members and their families serving in the military: Erica Botello, Caanan Campbell, Joey Brewer, Henry Clark, Ryan Freitas, Michael Hansen, Leah Linger, Connor Mannix, & Matthew Tigchelaar.

Those unable to travel about: Gail Hansen, Paul Pedersen, & Kenneth Selzer, Bonnie Terkelsen.

Those in need of pain relief & healing: Bobbie Beshears, Sandy Britter, Ed Bordin, Crystal Burns, Gaye Cissel, Steve Fletcher, Amanda Garcia, Kristen Gibson, Ed Gomez, Pat Griffin, Josh Hammers, Jim Hansen, Jan Kersgaard, Paul Jones, Donna Kennedy, Marcus Miranda, Joann Ortega, Gloria Payne, Larry Pickens, Patti Price, Bob Reynolds, Pastor Amy Schifren, Rebecca Stempniak, & Keitt Wilson.

For those mourning the loss of loved ones: The family of Janice Robinson, *Shirley Rasmussen's daughter*, and the family of Sally Caglia, *Nick's aunt* and Marian Lawrence, *Jackie's aunt*.

For people dealing with loneliness and depression. For those battling the illness and the health care providers tending to those in need.

PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

Week of 1-1-2024. Focus on creation. Genesis 1:1 NIV. In the beginning God created heaven and earth.

Week 1-8-2024. Focus on new things. Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV. Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up: do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Week of 1-15-2024. Focus on the new creation. 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!

Week of 1-22-2024. Focus on Jesus's creation works in us. Colossians 3:12 NIV. Here there is no gentile or Jew, circumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all and is in all.

Week of 1-29-2024. Focus on why we were created. Ephesians 2:10 NIV. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared for us to do.

that you'll know I can share the load with you. I'm on that journey that you are now embarking on. I will listen to you. I can also give you names of people who are journeying as well, and who will also gladly listen to you. I have that hole in my life where my wife Cindy used to be. It's a real void. I've described that feeling as getting a deep cut on your arm, the wound heals the pain lessens but the scar remains. Every time you see that scar you'll remember the pain. What's important is that the pain does lessen. You'll actually look at the scar and smile remembering the love and good feelings that it represents.

The journey is hard. No one, and I mean no one, has an easy time of it. First and by far the triune God we worship is always seeking to travel with you. Sin is the reason we suffer these times. Sin in the corporate sense that is. Sin is a part of the world. God is our hope. Pray, pray and pray. Speak to God. Tell him when you are hurting. He wants us to bring that to him. He will be there to comfort. You have to open yourselves up to that comfort. Comfort, in my experience comes from sharing with you my hurts and joys concerning the journey. I want to be clear that it is okay to tell a fellow griever that you are feeling like crap, if you are. Because they will understand that you are not okay all the time. It will help you move down the road if you can be honest first with yourself and then with others. If you're having a bad day, then you're having a bad day. It's okay to have a bad day you can expect to have bad days. Seven and a half years and I still have bad days.

So in my first of a series of "circle back" journeys here are what I want you to hear. You don't have to go it alone. God wants to walk with you. Reach out your hand, he'll be there. He may choose to walk with you through one of us, your fellow griever. Don't isolate, don't self-medicate, don't forget you are loved.

Talk to you later,

Love John.

Written by Cleavant Derricks popularized by the Oak Ridge Boys:

...Now let us have a little talk with Jesus

Let us tell him all about our troubles

He will hear our faintest cry

And he will answer by and by.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH FCA

I just want to say THANK YOU to everyone who have faithfully baked cookies for FCA. It is very much appreciated. Because you have been so amazing, we had enough cookies by the second week! Please enjoy a break until we resume our spring lunches in 2024! We are scheduled for March 20, and April 3, 10, 17, and 24th. Thank you to the team of volunteers that showed up to help, those who barbequed hot dogs, to those who baked lots of cookies. The left over cookies were packed for the freezer and will be used for Fellowship time after church on Sundays when needed.

Thank you again!
Ericka Gardner

SEW CARING DAY AT IMMANUEL

Join us Saturday January 13, 2024 from 10:00am-2:00pm with lunch provided.

We will be assembling sensory mats for Alzheimer, Dementia, Stroke, ADHD or Autism patients. The textures and trinkets help with fidgeting and calms anxiety and stress.

Please bring your sewing machine, and basic sewing supplies. Laura will have the fabric, batting and notions to add to the mats.



If you can sew on a button or crochet a flower, we need those skills too! Join us for some fellowship, food and fun as we serve the needs of others through our crafting.

Please let Laura Nielsen know if you plan to come so she can set up a work space for you and we have enough food for lunch.

NEWS NOTES

Birthday blessings to Joan Wynn for her 79th birthday on the 9th, to Darel Mehrten for his 86th birthday on the 10th, to Marie Salwasser on her 83rd birthday on the 13th, and to Carol Bennetts for her 71st birthday on the 27th!

Carl Jensen is a great-grandpa again! John Jensen is a grandpa again! Christian and Karen and big sister Violet welcomed Daisy Jane Jensen to their family on December 2, 2023. Daisy weighed in at 7 pounds 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. Mommy and baby are doing great and Violet loves being a big sister.



Sympathy love and prayers for the family of Janice Rasmussen Robinson. Janice passed away on December 4th after a brief bout with cancer. She lived in Oregon with her husband. She is also survived by her mother Shirley Rasmussen and sister, Becky Horg, and her Aunt Llewellyn Ostergard and many other friends and family. Janice grew up at Immanuel. Graveside services will be at 11:00am on January 6th at Washington Colony Cemetery followed by a luncheon at Immanuel.

The great tire dump in Easton! On December 19th the Easton countryside was struck by a massive dumping of old tires. The tires were scattered for miles. Along Elm Ave north of Central up to American, west bound on American and south bound on Fig to Adams, every 50 -100 feet a tire or two or three were dumped on the roadside. Tires were also spread on Fruit and Walnut between Adams and American. Some of the homes in the area caught pictures of a white pick up truck throwing tires before daylight. The Sheriff Department is not able to do anything unless they actually catch the litterbugs in the act. Please call them at 488-3111 if you see any illegally dumping anywhere. If your property has had illegal dumping please immediately call Fresno County Road Maintenance and Operations at 600-4240. Fortunately the tires were picked up that day by Fresno County. Our community deserves respect. We are grateful for our County Supervisor's office that helped make it happen.

Zumba Classes have started in Easton and your first class is FREE! The classes are Mondays -Saturdays at 8:30AM located at 5654 S. Elm Ave. After the first of the year, evening classes will be added. If you would like more information about Zuma call Esme Godinez at 559-306-9936. All classes after your first class are \$5.00 per class.

Darel Mehrten and Kristi Carlton enjoyed Thanksgiving in North Carolina and had a wonderful time.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2023

If you were on a committee in 2023 please submit a brief recap of what your committee accomplished in 2023 for our annual report. Please get them to the church office or email to: office@immanueleaston.com by **January 10th, 2024**. Thank you very much!

The best way to start your report is simply type out who, what, when and why. This help the congregation connect from year to year. Audit Committee, Bible Studies, Blood Drive, Caruthers Fair, Congregational President, Deacons, FCA Lunch Ministry, Fellowship lunch, Financial Secretary, Easton Food Distribution, Library, Music Committee, Bereavement, Nominating Committee, Small Group Ministry, Sunday School, Treasurer, Trustee, Ummata Events, Women's Ministry and any Other Programs happening at Immanuel that aren't listed.

SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY 2024

Birthdays

5-Rhys Nielsen
7-Andrea Bell
9- Joan Wynn
10-Darel Mehrten
13-Marie Salwasser
15-Nick Caglia
17-Tim Pilegard
18-Peter Gutierrez
19-Jon Marthedal
24-Carol Bennetts
-Jacob Caglia
27-Marcus Orum

Wedding Anniversaries

15-Bill & Janet Messenlehner (52)
23-Kenneth & Debbie Goff (36)
24-Richard & Jennifer Cisneros (26)



If we don't have your Baptism date on file we list you on January 1st so we can pray for you. If you see your name listed on Jan. 1st and you remember your actual baptism date, please let the church office know your actual baptism date. Thank you.

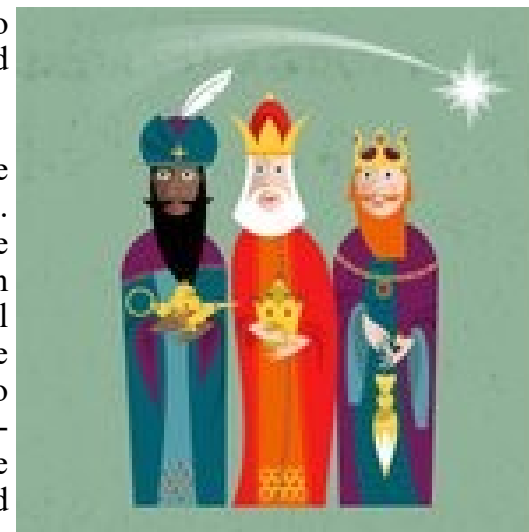
Baptismal Birthdays

1-Nick Caglia
-Daniel Hartwig
-Terry Gardner
-Chris Harding
-Floyd Harlan
-Scott Hollenbeck
- Carl Jensen
- Ellen Kahn
- Rich Kahn
- Diane Laub
- Joan Lindsey
-Joseph Perez
-Jennifer Perez
-Julius Perez
-Phil Tews
-Cindy Slaton
-Luke Stempniak
5-Andrew Nielsen
12-Laura Nielsen
13-Brad Gardner
15-Emmerson Gardner
19-Deanna Dunbar
20-Michael Moser
27-Janet Messenlehner

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School starts again January 7, 2024 on Epiphany at 9:30am in Grace Hall. Come meet the new team of teachers who will be telling Bible stories in creative ways starting with the Three Wise Men.

You may know the Three Wise Men best from a familiar Carol, "We Three Kings of Orient Are, bearing gifts we traveled afar, over fields and fountains, moors and mountains, we followed a yonder star." These three wise kings went on a long journey, hauling spices and gifts for baby Jesus who they were wise enough to know was born our Lord and Savior.



The three wise kings wore the royal colors of purple. Just for fun, wear purple clothes like the kings, when you come to Sunday School on January 7th. There will be breakfast snacks for you to enjoy, since the Kings traveled so far, they must have been hungry when they found our Savior. Each of these snacks will represent one of the different gifts the Wise Men brought Jesus— gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Now we know Jesus does not need our material gifts now, but if you would like to bring a gift to a baby, we will collect gifts for the Pregnancy Care Center as well. This time of year, the Pregnancy Care Center requests: sleepers, onesies, hooded towels, washcloths, bibs, or baby socks. Donations are optional.

We look forward to starting a new Children's Sunday School year!

Laura, Kaylee, Audra, Laurel, Marcia, Alex, and Kristi

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>December 31st</i></p> <p>10:30AM Worship & Communion 11:30AM Fellowship Time</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7:00pm NA In Grace Hall</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00AM Women's Bible Study in the library</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12:00PM Easton Food Distribution</p>	<p>6 11:00AM Washington Colony Cemetery Graveside services for Janice Rasmussen</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30AM Sunday School for all ages 10:30AM Worship & Communion 11:30AM Fellowship Time 12:30PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00pm NA In Grace Hall</p>	<p>9</p> <p><i>No Women's Bible Study today.</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Annual Reports Due! FCA Lunch</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 10:00AM Women's Sew Day</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:30AM Sunday School for all ages 10:30AM Worship & Communion 11:30AM Fellowship Time</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00pm NA In Grace Hall</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00AM Women's Bible Study in the library</p>	<p>17</p> <p>FCA Lunch</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30AM Sunday School for all ages 10:30AM Worship & Communion 11:30AM Fellowship Time</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00pm NA In Grace Hall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00AM Women's Bible Study in the library 6:30PM Church</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00AM Feb. Chimes Deadline FCA Lunch</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Social Hall Reserved</i></p>
<p>25 Blood Drive</p> <p>9:30AM Sunday School for all ages 10:30AM Worship & Communion 11:30AM Fellowship Time 11:45AM Annual Congregation Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00pm NA In Grace Hall</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00AM Women's Bible Study in the library</p>	<p>31</p> <p>FCA Lunch</p>	<p><i>February 1</i></p> <p>6:00AM Men's Bible Study in Social Hall</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:00PM Easton Food Distribution</p>	<p>3</p>