



# Immanuel Newsletter

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From Your Pastor in the Interim

We have five Sundays left in September to celebrate the life and legacy of Immanuel Baptist Church. Those five Sundays will include a Parent-Child Dedication Service on September 15 for Richard and Lauren Pait's two precious sons, sharing communion together on September 22, and our Celebration Sunday worship service in the sanctuary and a luncheon with a program to follow at the Hilton on September 29. We also celebrated an early All-Saints Day service, normally held on the first Sunday of November, on August 25 when we remembered those Immanuel members who died in the past year, along with other special family and friends whose lives we continue to cherish beyond their deaths.

I know you have been praying and thinking about the new church home where God will lead you. I will be offering a Wednesday evening class on September 18 and 25 in the fellowship hall beginning at 6:30 pm entitled "Finding Your New Church Home." The class content will include the basics of Baptist history, polity, beliefs, and current happenings in the Baptist world that impacts every local congregation. We'll also briefly look at what is happening in the world of other denominations and churches. I'll also offer some ideas that you will want to consider in your search for a new church home under God's leadership. Whether or not you decide to remain in the Baptist family, I am hopeful that these two Wednesday evenings will be helpful to you in your journey. I also welcome you sharing some specific questions or concerns you may have as you think about connecting with a new church home.

Please also know that Leslie and I have truly come to love and appreciate each one of you who have made Immanuel your place of worship, service, and fellowship. I sincerely respect and honor the way you have sought God's will – nothing more, nothing less, nothing else – in the dual decisions of selling the property and dissolving as a congregation. With great courage and faith in God and in each other, you have made two of the most difficult decisions any congregation will ever make. Those decisions were anchored with a spirit of unity, prayer, and trust in God. You are now moving forward with a confidence that Immanuel's legacy will continue to live on through your financial gifts to our community, as well as by your continued service in a new church home. Leslie and I will always hold a special place in our hearts for the privilege of knowing and serving alongside the wonderful people of Immanuel Baptist Church.

With love and prayers always,

Greg Rogers

## Praying at 1:09 pm Every Day

Immanuel Baptist Church celebrated her 109th birthday on April 22 of this year. Our Immanuel Prayer Team invites each of us to pause each day at 1:09 pm for a moment of prayer. As we did during our Prayer Walk on August 28, please pray for:

- Our Immanuel Church family as we move through this transition time and celebrate our church's history and heritage.
- Immanuel members as they discern God's leadership in discovering a new church home.
  - Immanuel homebound members as we continue to love and care for them.
  - The Korean Mission as they continue their work and ministry.
- Opendoor Church as they begin offering Sunday worship services, along with other weekday activities and ministries, beginning later this fall.

Consider placing a sticky note on your refrigerator, bathroom mirror, in your car, or in some other location to remind you to pray at 1:09 pm for our church, along with the Korean Mission and Opendoor Church. And, if it's not convenient to pray at 1:09 pm, then find a suitable moment in your day to pray for these churches that God's blessings will be upon them.

### Celebrating Immanuel's Legacy 1915 - 2024

The current membership of Immanuel Baptist Church voted to sell the church building as well as to cease all services of Immanuel as of September 29, 2024. This decision was not made lightly and involved almost a year of prayer and discernment.

Immanuel has a legacy of 109 years of ministry and mission to the community which we wish to celebrate on September 29th. We hope you can join us that Sunday and share any special memories of Immanuel and ministries you may have been a part of while involved at Immanuel.

If you are unable to join us, we invite you to send memories, photos, etc to be shared with others.

Schedule for Sunday, September 29th

- 10:00 -10:30 am Slideshow in sanctuary
- 10:30 -12:00 pm Worship service
- 12:30 - 1:20 pm Buffet lunch at Hilton
- 1:20 - 2:30 pm Sharing of memories
- 3:00 - 5:00 pm Church will be open, and the slideshow will be running for anyone that wishes to take pictures etc.

Please visit [www.ibcg.org](http://www.ibcg.org) to RSVP for the luncheon. The deadline to RSVP is September 15th.

### Finding Your New Church Home Class

Wednesdays, September 18 and 25

6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Led by Dr. Greg Rogers

As you search for a new church home following Immanuel's dissolving at the end of September, what are some things to know and understand in that search? Dr. Rogers will provide some insight during these two Wednesday evenings on:

- The basics of Baptist history, polity, beliefs, and current happenings in the Baptist world that impacts every local congregation.
- A brief look at what is happening in the world of other denominations and churches.
- Ideas and perspectives to consider in your search for a new church home under God's leadership.

### Korean Mission Church Events in September

Your labor will not be in vain in the Lord.

We are all saddened by the closing of the Immanuel Baptist Church building, which has a long history of 109 years. However, this building will still stand here, and the Korean Mission of IBC, which was established through your tearful prayers and loving service, will continue to think of you and continue the work of God with gratitude.

The Korean Mission of IBC was established as a mission church of the Immanuel Baptist Church 26 years ago, and three Korean Mission pastors, including me, have been and are through the Immanuel Church.

Joseph Kim was the first pastor of the Korean Mission of IBC and has been here for 10 years, and is now an IMB missionary doing amazing works of God in the Philippines. David Nam was the second pastor of the Korean Mission of IBC and had been here for 10 years, and is now doing precious work of God by reviving a struggling church in the state of Nevada. And I, the third pastor of the Korean Mission of IBC, have been serving the Korean Mission Church for 6 years now through your tearful prayers and loving service.

I believe that even when the building of the Immanuel Church closes, and you all go to other churches, the 109 years of prayers, service, and dedication you have shed for the gospel will not be in vain in God.

Thank you for your hard work for 109 years. And, thank you for praying for the Korean Mission Church, embracing it with love, and serving it for 26 years. And, the Korean Mission will also participate in the last service on September 29th.

Thank you again.

From the members of the Korean Mission of IBC

### Meetings & Events

- Mon, Sept 2 -Church Office is Closed due to Labor Day Holiday
- Wed, Sept 11 -Church Conference, 7 PM
- Sat, Sept 14 -ECU vs ASU, 4 PM
- Wed, Sept 18 -Finding Your New Church Home, 6:30 PM
- Sun, Sept 22 -Communion
- Wed, Sept 25 -Finding Your New Church Home, 6:30 PM
- Sat, Sept 28 -ECU vs UTSA, TBD
- Sun, Sept 29 -Celebrating Immanuel's Legacy  
Slide Show, 10 AM  
Worship Service, 10:30 AM  
Luncheon, 12:30 PM  
Church will be open for pictures, 3-5 PM

### Happy Birthday!

- 4 Diane Myers
- 10 Dennis Winstead
- 23 Steve Tomlinson
- 25 Nick Lietz
- 28 Rudy Johnson
- 28 Cecil Mizelle
- 29 Shirley Martin

### Happy Anniversary!

- 21 Mark & Nancy Raysin
- 27 Asher & Raychel Panton