

Immanuel Evangelical Church January, 2024



EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION



Children's Epiphany Party Sunday, Jan 7; 6:00-7:30 K-5th grade

Please bring a flash light with you!

Global missionary to speak January 7

Andy Cavendar, one of the global missionaries that our church supports will be with us on Sunday, January 7 during the 10:15 am worship service.

Andy will give an update on his ministry with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) that he and his family engages in Dirimba, Nicaragua in Central America.

While he is with us, Andy will receive a monetary donation from our Missions Committee that has been raised by our church family.

We will offer refreshments after worship on Sunday so that folk can visit with Andy and his family.



Andy Cavendar

Please keep Andy and his ministry in your prayers that God might continue to use him to share the gospel.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Live Nativity



Rev. Ron Shifley
Senior Pastor
Office 979-793-6282
Pastoral Emergencies
Cell 419-905-9844

Rev. George R. Kuebler
Pastor Emeritus

Deanna Shifley
Interim Youth Director
Office 979-793-6283
Cell 567-242-4490
Email: youth@iecneedville.org

Samantha Sebesta
Leaps & Bounds Director
Office 979-553-3357

Jackie Moody
Organist/Keyboardist

Debbie Palmer
Church Office Manager
Church Office 979-793-6125
Email office@iecneedville.org
Mon-Fri 9:00 am -- 2:30 pm

Ron's Ramblings

Mickey and Jesus in the public domain

On January 1, 2024 the “Steamboat Willie” version of Mickey Mouse entered the public domain. For weeks the news were running articles about this historic event. No longer would Walt Disney have exclusive copyright rights to protect the fair use of the 1928 version of Mickey Mouse. He now belongs to all of us and can be used by the masses to create memes, products, and even new films based on this iconic character (as long as those items do not attempt to use later adaptations of Mickey Mouse that are still under copyright protection by the Disney company).

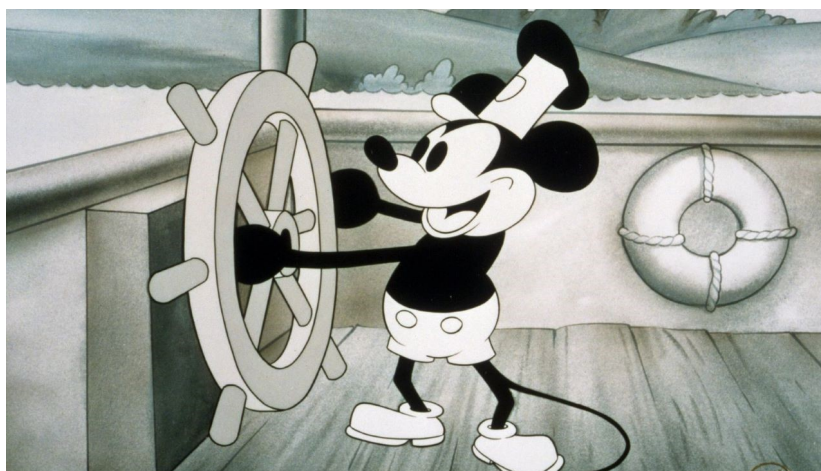
While Mickey Mouse has only recently become touchable in the public domain, Jesus from the start lived in the public domain. In fact, from the time the angels announced his birth, “I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people” (Luke 2:9), Jesus was accessible to the masses.

The Gospels tell many stories of how crowds got close to Jesus. “One day as Jesus was standing by the Sea of Galilee, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God” (Luke 5:1). “When Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them” (Mark 2:1-2). “...the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus... saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick” (Matthew 14:13-14). “As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him... She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped” (Luke 8:42-44).

As the Gospels recount, Jesus was far different from Mickey Mouse. He was not a copyright protected character who the

people found inaccessible. The people flocked to him to hear his teaching, to find healing, and to be in the presence of the Lord’s anointed One. They paid little attention for his need of personal space.

In fact, even when Jesus in his most solitary moment, being crucified, nailed to a cross, he still found that he couldn’t be alone, for one of the fellow condemned prisoners invaded this space with a personal request, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23:42).



Here’s the truth of the matter. Jesus didn’t come into the world to be an inaccessible copyright protected character. The point of Jesus’ birth, life, death and ministry was to touch people’s lives and to help them experience the love of God and God’s way to salvation. “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).

Note: we can only come to God the Father “through him.” He intends to have a close, personal relationship with us. He desires it. He wants it. He expects it! Therefore our relationship with Jesus should not be distanced. Jesus yearns for a “public domain” relationship with you and me. He wants us to get close to him. To join him in life’s journey: through prayer, Bible study, worship and ministry. He wants to live in us, and in our hearts through the power of his Holy Spirit.

In 2024 I want to challenge y’all to develop a public domain relationship with Jesus: one that draws you closer to him, and one that encourages your family and friendship circle to do the same. You’ll be glad if you did!



2023 Family Hanukkah Party

Several families came together on December 10 to celebrate the biblical holiday of Hanukkah. They enjoyed a potluck supper, lighting the Hanukkah menorah, playing the game of dreidel and eating fresh, piping hot doughnuts. Special thanks to everyone who helped set up, and cook the delicious food. Fun was had by all who attended.



Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met on December 15, 2023 with 13 members present. Barbara James reported on the poinsettia sales stating all were sold. Christmas cards were sent out by Sheila Elster to all Guild Honorary Members. Reports were given by everyone who delivered the gifts to the nursing homes. An audit committee comprising of Wanda Miller, Rita Hedt, Sharon Hedt, and Robin Miculek was formed. Members were reminded to sign up on the 2024 Program, Refreshment, and Committee sheets. The Guild will take up offering on the fourth Sunday in December. Prayer concerns were read and prayed for. Birthdays and anniversaries were celebrated. Debby Wendt won the door prize. The meeting was adjourned and the members went to the Golden Corral for their Christmas luncheon.

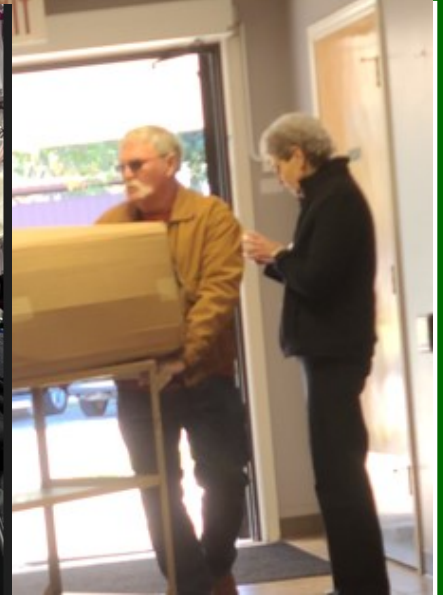


Brotherhood

"COATS FOR CHRIST- MAS"

**Thank you
for making it
possible!**

**We have re-
ceived 2
"thank you"
cards for
your generos-
ity.**



Our Brotherhood was once again blessed to receive a generous \$2500.00 donation from an anonymous donor. **With your help,** we bought **64** new coats for the neediest kids within NISD!!

Thank you for helping us help warm some kids hearts and bodies, this Christmas season. Thank you to those that shopped for all those coats, too.

God bless you all!!

IEC YOUTH

Deanna Shifley, Interim Youth Director

Email: Deanna.shifley@gmail.com

Cell: 567-242-4490

Office: 979-793-6283

Hanukkah Youth Night



The Youth Fellowship learned about the biblical holiday of Hanukkah, why it's important for Christmas, lit the seven candles on the menorah, prayed to let the light of Christ live in their hearts and lives during devotions, and got to play dreidel game and eat fresh donuts. Fun was had by all.

“The Faith of St. Nicholas”



Our Youth Fellowship presented the streaming drama “The Faith of St. Nicholas” on December 6th.. “I’m so very proud of our kiddos! They never cease to amaze me!!!! Love them all!” said by Marla Sebesta.

Lighting Advent Candles



Great job to our teens in lighting the Advent wreath during December.

**Friday night Catacombs
teen ministry
for Needville will resume
Friday, Jan. 5th.**



Children's Christmas Program... Great Job!



Bell Choir Rehearsals
Resumes Wednesdays Jan. 10
5:30-6:00 pm
Come make a joyful noise!!



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY



Worship Committee

Immanuel always looks beautiful at Christmas.
We hope you have enjoyed worshipping during this special time.
We are coming to the end of the Christmas season and will soon be taking down the decorations.
Please mark your calendar for January 14th.

We will be serving a light lunch for all those who stay and help. It is a big job, and we hope to have many hands to lighten the load. Thanks in advance for your help.

December Memories...



News from the Lily Pad

January, 2024

Happy New Year!

May your troubles be less, and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door!

January is a month of getting back on track from being away from our daily routines here.

We missed seeing our sweet kiddos, and hoped they missed us, too!

We will host our Momma's for "Muffins with Mom". So much fun getting to start your day with breakfast with your little one.

As always, we are so blessed to be able to have such a full calendar of wonderful events! Thank You to our Board Members for always lending a helping and guiding hand as well as our Leap Frog Parents, we would not be here without you all!

Leaping for Education—Bound by Christ

LEAPS AND BOUNDS SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER
LET'S HAVE SOME FUN! HELP LEAPS AND BOUNDS MDO BY PURCHASING A SUPER BOWL SQUARE! EACH SQUARE IS \$50.
PLEASE TEXT MIKE 979-559-1268 TO PICK YOUR SQUARES! TO PAY SEND A VENMO TO @LEAPSANDBOUNDS-MDO

1ST QTR	\$250.00
2ND QTR	\$500.00
3RD QTR	\$250.00
FINAL	\$1,000.00

NO PAY!
NO PLAY!
NO OVERTIME!

PLEASE TEXT MIKE @979-559-1268 TO PICK YOUR SQUARE

PIC-COLLAGE



Missions & Outreach

Each month, the Mission Outreach Committee makes a recommendation to the Consistory as to where money should be sent for Immanuel's mission contribution. The list below will bring you up-to-date on which organizations received in 2023.

January - Lion of Judah (paid 2x\$1000)
January - NMA Sr. Citizens fishing pole/box donation \$194.98
February - YWAM (Andy Cavendar) \$1000
March - CWS Crop Walk - donated \$200
April - Strethearts of Haiti - \$1000
May - Evangelical Association - \$1000
June - Lion of Judah Academy (donated in January)
July - NMA Backpack (\$500)/ Special Toys for Special Needs (\$500)
August - Evangelical Association \$1000
September - Strethearts of Haiti—\$1000
October - No donation
November - Christmas NMA - \$500
December - Strethearts of Haiti - \$1000, \$1000 YWAM (Andy Cavendar), \$700 NMA Senior Citizens Center

Allocated funds for these contributions come from the 2023 "Wider Mission Money Envelope Challenge" and the Receipts for Rebates. A BIG THANK YOU to all those who filled the envelopes and/or participating in the receipts fundraiser!

2023: Offerings + receipts = \$13,095.39 Payouts: \$11,594.98

Balance: \$1,500.41

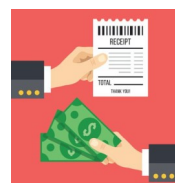
Digital Mission Display center to be installed in January

A 65" interactive touch screen Digital Mission Display center has been donated by the pastoral family to help our Missions Committee educate and connect our church family with the local and global missions and missionaries that our church supports.

The Digital Mission Display center will be located in the lobby just outside of the church office. The touch screen monitor will allow church members the chance to see where our global mission funds are going via an interactive global map. Folks can click on the map to view bios of our missionaries along with photos, video, recent mission letters, and QR codes that will allow individuals access to mission websites, direct email correspondence and more via one's smart phone browser.

The Digital Mission Display center will help us better connect and get to know the global missionaries we support: Andy Cavender with YWAM in Nicaragua, Strethearts of Haiti, and the Lion of Judah Academy in Tanzania.

In addition, the Digital Mission Display center will help folk visualize the local missions of the NMA (Needville Ministerial Alliance): Needville Food Pantry, Senior Citizens Center, Community VBS, and Back to School backpack and Christmas toy and food distributions.



Raise funds for local and global missions just by shopping!

**Need people to sign up.
Robin does all the work!**

**Receipts for
Rebates
2023 YTD Total
\$9,832.42**



Finally, the Digital Mission Display center will help us tell the story of the Evangelical Association (EA) as a nationwide network of churches and more specifically the EA Summer Church Camps that we support and help lead here in Texas.

The pastoral family, Consistory, and Missions Committee hope that the Digital Mission Display center will help us put a face to the ways we live out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8) in a local, regional and global perspective.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bruce Oberhoff. Members present were Bruce Oberhoff, Pastor Ron, Steve Britt, Quentin Sebesta, Patsye Roesler, Cheri Oberhoff, Tommy Gaskamp, Janet Raesner, Deven Dick and Deanna Shifley (via Zoom) Pastor Ron opened with prayer.

Minutes/Approval

Steve Britt made a motion to approve November 21st minutes, Cherie Oberhoff seconded and all approved.

Treasurer's Report

Janet Raesner reported that November loss was

Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday,
January 21, 2024**

NEW CONSISTORY MEMBERS NEEDED

The Consistory is looking for individual church members who might be interested in serving on the Consistory for a 2-year term starting February 2024.

(We need your help!)

Consistory meetings are held on 3rd Thursday of each month and typically last little over an hour.

Contact

Bruce Oberhoff (281) 467-5385

or

Patsye Roesler (713) 822-8690
for more information.

DECEMBER

(preliminary report)

TOTAL INCOME: \$34,524.27

(There was an extra service and more donations.)

EXPENSES: \$19,681.84

(Dec and Jan: no property insurance payments due (\$2,486.50/month))

Thank you for giving unto this ministry!

ATTENDANCE

	WORSHIP	ONLINE FB	YouTube
DECEMBER 3	110	103	3
DECEMBER 10	112	66	2
DECEMBER 17	115	107	4
DECEMBER 24 (morning)	66	153	3
DECEMBER 24 (Eve)	237	114	4



Offering by Credit or Debit

To give by debit or credit card, you can scan this QR code.

It will take you directly to an app to make your donation.

Thank you for your support!

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany
	<i>Office Closed</i>		<i>Brotherhood Dartball with Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	<i>NMA Clergy 10:00 am</i> <i>Christian Education Committee 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens 11:00 am</i> <i>Catacombs 8:00-11:00 pm</i>	<i>Fellowship Hall Rental 2:00-6:00 pm</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship/Communion 10:15 am</i> <i>Children's Epiphany Party 6:00 pm</i>	<i>Cub Scouts 6:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i> <i>Fellowship Committee 2:00 pm</i> <i>Missions Committee 7:00 pm</i> <i>Leaps & Bounds Board 7:00 pm</i>	<i>Food Pantry 9:30- 12:00 pm</i> <i>Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30pm</i> <i>Bells Choir Rehearsal 5:30 - 6:00 pm</i> <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i> <i>Cub Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens 11:00 am</i> <i>Catacombs 8:00-11:00 pm</i>	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship/Perfect Attendance 10:15 am</i> <i>Taking down the greens w/ light lunch After service</i>		<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i> <i>Brotherhood 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Bells Choir Rehearsal 5:30 - 6:00 pm</i> <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i> <i>Consistory 7:00 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens 11:00 am</i> <i>Women's Guild 10:00 am</i> <i>Catacombs 8:00-11:00 pm</i>	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship 10:15 am</i> <i>Annual Congregation Meeting after Svc</i>		<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i>	<i>Food Pantry 9:30- 12:00 pm</i> <i>Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Bells Choir Rehearsal 5:30 - 6:00 pm</i> <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm (Muffins with Mom)</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens 11:00 am</i> <i>Catacombs 8:00-11:00 pm</i>	
28	29	30	31			
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship/ABC 10:15 am</i> <i>Senior Citizens Center Fundraiser 10:30-1:00 pm</i>		<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm</i>	<i>Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30pm</i> <i>Bells Choir Rehearsal 5:30 - 6:00 pm</i> <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>			

PRAYER LIST

Sandra Muegge
Mark Paweleck
Jeanette Balcerowicz
Karen Zurek
Olie Eixmann
Vida Arlitt
Corlis Delling
**Robert Gorka
Deanna Shifley
**Harry Weidemann

**Tommy Lovel
**Harvey Mager
**Luke Oberhoff
**Kathy Miller
**Jim Lightbody
Kirk Schmidt
Waymond Schulze
**Rodney McCafferty
**Ralph Wendt
**Dylan Taylor

**Matt Morton
Randy Ognoskie
Verna Dell McGuire
Jo Svatek
Kenneth Raska
Erna Thielemann
Bobby Zwahr
Caroline Kost
Joy Kramer



PRAYER LIST GUIDELINES

It is an **honor and privilege to pray** for the needs of those on our prayer list. Prayer requests will be listed for a maximum of six weeks unless the church office is notified. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. We look forward to sharing in both your concerns and your joys!

**Please update the office if still needing prayer.

Happy Anniversary!!!

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

01 JONATHAN & JACKIE MOODY
19 TONY & KRISTI NOVOSAD
30 DAVID & CARRIE ALTRECHE

The 2023 Contribution Statements will be ready Jan 15th. If you would like yours, please let Debbie in the office know.



2 David Dick, Jr. Ray Oberhoff	16 Dana Hawkins
4 Joan Wendt Quinn Svatek	17 Alexis Richter
6 Jeri Rodgers	19 Madelyn Griffith
7 Kyle Raesner	20 Kaylee Weidemann Calvin Hedt, Jr
8 Braxton Svatek William (Bill) Johnson	21 Bridget Goodbread Hudson Goodbread
9 Pauletta Klemstein Vanessa Miller Florence Gaskamp	22 John Otto Elizabeth Leus
10 Clarence Warncke, Jr.	23 Darlene Mensik
11 Tina Holik	24 Anna Gadway
12 Sheila Elster	25 Yvonne Lingnau
13 Debbie Legendre Jayse Mach	27 David Thielemann Elvina Loehr
14 Kevin Lovel Allan Abel	29 Corbin March
15 Mike Nulisch	30 Olivia Tiemann
	31 Wayne Schmidt

If you see any information that is incorrect, please let me know. Information from Membership Forms is being used to update Birthdays & Anniversaries. Please report any errors or omissions to Debbie @ 979-793-6125 or office@iecneedville.org. I will make sure they are corrected for next time. Membership forms are available in the information center by the church office.

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

979-793-6125 E-mail address—office@iecneedville.org

P.O. BOX 505

9018 CHURCH STREET

NEEDVILLE, TEXAS 77461-0505

www.immanuelevangelicalchurch.org

Find us on Facebook @ Immanuel Evangelical Church Needville Texas



25th Anniversary Leroy Miksch Senior Citizens Fundraiser
Sunday, January 28, 2024
Needville Columbus Hall



4-piece fried chicken dinner with green beans, buttered potatoes, roll, tea and dessert \$15.
Serving from 10:30-1:00

No presale tickets.

Dine in or plates to go. Drive Up to go plates for Seniors available.

Raffle Tickets for homemade quilts and more are \$2 each or a book of 6 for \$10.

(Tickets available at Prosperity Bank, Western Power, New First Bank, Kinfolks Antiques, and Lillie Kays.)

Live Auction begins at noon! 50/50 Raffle (Sponsorships welcome. Call Chris Janacek 281-468-9314.)

Live Auction, Silent Auction, Basket Raffle and a Bake Sale will also be held.