Immanuel Evangelical Church May, 2024



Rite of Confirmation to be held on Pentecost Sunday, May 19.

On Sunday, May 19, 2024, nine of our teens will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation and their first communion.

EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION

This year's 8th Grade Confirmation Class consists of Blaine Eversole, Husdon Goodbread, Whitney Griffith, Madisyn Holik, Patrick Kelly, Grady Legendre, Cash Raska, Reniya White and Rylee Zwahr.

Festivities on May 19 begin at 9:00 am with Confirmation Jeopardy Game in the Fellowship Hall. Parents and the whole congregation are invited to attend. Donuts and juice will be served to all in attendance.

Confirmation Jeopardy is their final exam and will consist of a fun quiz over topics of Bible Trivia, Church History, Holidays, the Heidelberg Catechism, Christian Symbols, and Immanuel Evangelical Church History.

During the 10:15 am worship service, the teens and their parents will participate in the Rite of Confirmation consisting of publicly professing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, laying on of hands and celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Families of our Confirmation Class should plan to stay after worship for Class pictures.

125th Anniversary | 100 Years in our Current Building



Join the celebration Sunday June 2

Sunday, June 2, 2024 we will be celebrating the 125th Anniversary of our Immanuel Evangelical Church family along with the 100th Anniversary of our church building.

That day we'll have special worship, a special meal cooked by the Men's Brotherhood, Women's Guild and Fellowship Committee, and play I.E.C. History Jeopardy Game.

Enjoy time with former pastors, Rev. Jim Barnes (EA National Minister) and other special guests.

Bring your whole family and join us for this grand event!

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 Memorial Day service set for May 27 at IEC Church Cemetery



Our church will once again host a Memorial Day Observance on Monday, May 27 at 10:30 am at the Immanuel Evangelical Church Cemetery.

Cub Scouts Pack #129 will take part in the service along with Pastor Ron. We'd like to invite the whole congregation to come out and share in this solemn time of honor and remembrance.

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

What Bible translation should I use?

I get asked a very important question from time to time: "Pastor, I'm looking for a good Bible to read. What's the best version of the Bible for me?"

The short answer is this: The best Bible is the one that you will actually read. The translation/version of the Bible is not as important as the need for that Bible translation to engage you in such a way that you'll want to read more, dig deeper, and find God's Word calling out to you for study, devotions and worship time. The Apostle Peter described what it's like to really engage in the Scriptures: "Like newborn babies,

crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation..." (1 Peter 2:2)

There are a number of popular Bible translations to choose from: King James Version (KJV), New King James Version (NKJV), New International Version (NIV), New Revised

Standard Version (NRSV), New Living Translation (NLT), English Standard Version (ESV) and the Common English Bible (CEB), just to name a few.

Some, like the King James Version, are harder to read and understand because of the 1611 old English vocabulary it contains. (Yet the poetry is beautiful and this was the standard Bible in England and America for almost 500 years, so it contains passages that have been quoted for generations. The "Charlie Brown Christmas" special from 1965 comes to mind as it contains a segment of Linus quoting Luke 2:8-14 from the KJV. Others, like The Message, are unique in its use of modern idiom, but it's not a translation, only a paraphrase and thus not a reliable version of the Bible for serious study.

My personal preference for my entire ordained ministry has been to use the **New International Version (NIV)**. The language is easier to read and understand than other versions. It has been considered the most popular Bible by evangelical Christians for a number of years, and it is faithful to the original texts that were composed in Hebrew and Greek. In fact, I've preached and taught Sunday School and Confirmation classes from the **NIV Student Bible** since 1992. This is the Bible that we use in Confirmation classes here at Immanuel Church. The latest edition was published by Zondervan in 2023. I like this Bible because it is useful

for teens and adults alike. If you're a new believer, or someone who feels inadequate in maneuvering through the Bible, the study helps and reading plans in this edition of the NIV Bible make it easy to navigate and helps God's Word jump out at you.

If you want to dig deeper, the

NIV Study Bible, published in 2020 by Zondervan, is the perfect Bible for you. It contains thousands of study notes,

and tons of full color maps and charts throughout the Bible to deepen your comprehension of God's Word.

In addition to the NIV, there are two other Bibles that I would recommend if you want a fuller understanding of Scripture. The first is **The Orthodox Study Bible**. It was published in 2008 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. The Old

Testament is special because it is a fresh English translation of the Septuagint (the Greek Old Testament). The Septuagint was the common translation used by the Early Church and is what is quoted by the New Testament writers when they quote passages from the Old Testament. So often, when you read a passage in the New Testament, footnotes refer you to the Septuagint. That's because the Greek rendering of the text was slightly different from the Hebrew. Since the NT writers used the Septuagint as the basis of their quotations, it's nice to have and English version of that text. This Bible also contains the **New King James Version** (NKJV) as the text for the New Testament. It's helpful to read the NIV and NKJV side by side.

My third Bible recommendation is the 2011 Common English Bible: The Apocrypha (CEB). While most of us are unfamiliar with the books of the Apocrypha (like Baruch, Sirach, Wisdom of Solomon and 1 Maccabees), these books were canonized by the Early Church at regional councils: the Synods of Laodicea in 363 AD, Hippo in 393 AD, and Carthage in 397 AD (the same councils that canonized the books of the New Testament), so its's good to have a working knowledge of them since the New Testament authors quote them from time to time. Although these books fell out of favor during the Protestant Reformation, they are still useful reads for Bible study by Christians today.











Women enjoy Spring Getaway Luncheon

Nearly 50 women of all ages enjoyed the "Women's Spring Getaway Luncheon" on April 13 sponsored by the Women's Guild. Participants got to choose a getaway location to sit at for the event. Destinations included: Paris, Germany, New Orleans, Hawaii, Las Vegas, Disney and more. The women were treated to a delicious lunch. Lunch was followed by MaKayla Taska -Genzer who shared the keynote on trusting God during life's seasons. Door prizes were given away and everyone went home with a prized souvenir from their chosen getaway destination. Thanks to everyone who participated!

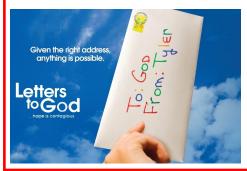


Fellowship Committee monthly MOVIE MATINEE.

May 7th @ 2:00 pm

Please join us for an afternoon of relaxation as we snack on popcorn, drink lemonade, and enjoy the movie

"Letters to God"



IEC YOUTH

Deanna Shifley, Interim Youth Director Email: Deanna.shifley@gmail.com

Cell: 567-242-4490 Office: 979-793-6283



Knights! Castles! Princesses! Dragons! Join Princess Pride, Sir Brags-a-lot, and their curious band on an amazing trek in a very faraway land.
Powerful gospel message - amazingly cool songs - the hippest tracks.
Registration and volunteer forms are available on the church website and in the Main Lobby by the Church Office.



prodigal 2024 EA YOUTH CAMP

2ND-5TH GRADE - JULY 18-19 - \$50 6TH-12TH GRADE - JULY 21-24 - \$120



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS
FOR MAY

"PSALM 23"





Friday nights
8 pm
For teens
grades 6-12

Come enjoy the fun and fellowship.

Invite friends! Show them that you can be a Christian and still have fun!

Ends May 3rd.



Graduation Sunday is May 12. We will celebrate our high school graduates with a Graduation Breakfast at 9:00 am and by honoring them during the 10:15 am worship service. Please RSVP to Deanna Shifley to attend the Graduation Breakfast.





Celebrating Passover. The Jr. & Sr. High Youth Fellowship celebrated the Passover Feast on April 24. Teens recalled the Exodus story with a video recap from the film, "The Prince of Egypt," and then retold the story at table by playing with and eating the symbolic foods of the Passover Feast. Youth stirred mortar with mixed nuts and raisins, sprinkled salt water tears, cracked hard boiled eggs to recall how the 10 plagues broke Pharaoh's heart, covered the doorposts of their plates with blood (grape juice), recalled the parting of the Red Sea with Miriam's cup of water, and enjoyed roasted lamb, flat bread, grapes, cheese and sweet bread. A number of teens read Scripture from Exodus and the Gospel of Luke. A delicious meal of enjoyed by all. The teens celebrated Passover during the actual week of Passover. Normally Passover falls on the calendar during Holy Week and is celebrated on Maundy Thursday, like we did as church family, but in 2024 the biblical holidays are about a month later than normal on the Jewish calendar due to the lunar calendar. So, out teens got to celebrate the biblical holiday on it's actual calendar date. The Passover meal was cooked and served by Deanna Shifley, Ann Chambers, Cheri Oberhoff, Florence Gaskamp and Tommy Gaskamp.

Evangelism Committee making us more "welcoming"

The Evangelism Committee has been spearheading efforts to help our church welcome visitors and new families during Sunday morning worship and help assimilate them into our church family.

First, the Evangelism Committee evaluated how welcoming we currently are and what needs and questions that first time visitors and new families might have when folk visit our church for the first time, or try to find their way around our church home. This evaluation led to the following new initiatives:

First, we have implemented a "welcoming time" at the beginning of worship during the opening chorus so that everyone, new visitors and long time members, get a chance to be greeted by a number of people on any given Sunday.

Second, a "campus map" brochure has been designed to hand out to visitors and new attendees to give them a visual guide on how to find restrooms, baby changing stations, the fellowship hall, etc.



Third, a "Welcome Team" is being recruited and organized to welcome visitors and provide helpful information to newcomers. This team will comprise of a team of greeters who will welcome people at the door and who help direct them to our new "Welcome Center" (located in the main lobby by the church office) that will be staffed by volunteers before and after worship to assist visitors and church members by answering questions, offering to give tours of the church, handing out free Bibles to those who request one, (possibly selling witness wear and other merch that will help grow one's faith), helping people locate resources like music camp registration forms and simply offering an extra "hello" to those who walk by.



Needville National Day of Prayer Service

Thursday, May 2 @ 6:30 pm

The Filling Station Church 11511 HWY 36

Sponsored by the Needville Ministerial Alliance

The EA National Board of Directors meet



The Evangelical Association National Board of Directors met April 9-10 in Charlotte, North Carolina for two days of prayer, Bible study, and discussion on topics of importance for the churches in our wider church connection. So thankful our Pastor, Ron Shifley, was able to attend. He brings back nuggets for us.



Needville Ministerial Alliance VBS 2024

July 8-12, 2024 from 9 am—12pm

St. Paul Presbyterian Church hosting at Immanuel Evangelical Church campus https://vbspro.events/p/f829cc

SAVE THE DATE..... OPEN MARKETPLACE IS COMING!! OCTOBER 13, 2024 @ Columbus Hall!

Brian Zwahr and Cindy Schulze are Co-Chairmen of our annual fundraiser.

We have a committee of ten people who have begun planning this event.

At this time, our greatest needs are someone to volunteer to be in charge of the basket raffle and the publicity.

If you can help with either of those items, please contact Brian (979-533-2611) or Cindy (832-344-7176).

Stay tuned for more information that will be coming

in future newsletters and announcements in church.

Planning underway for 2025 EA National Convocation

A planning team has formed to help our church host the EA's 2025 National Convocation that will take place here at Immanuel Evangelical Church on September 18-21, 2025.

The planning team has decided upon a theme: "Merge with Jesus" based on Mark 8:34 "Whoever wants to be my



disciples must deny themselves and take up cross and follow me." The theme was approved by the EA National Board of Directors at their meeting in North Carolina in April.

The planning team is also in discussion on who to invite as keynote speakers, and sharing thoughts on menus for the various meals that will be served during the four day event. Please cover this team in your prayers for the months ahead.

Missions/Outreach

Andy Cavender's work with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) is our focus for our May collection. Andy is a 'local boy' who grew up in Rosenberg with his parents, Doug & Rhonda, and his sister, Beth. He now has a family of his own with wife, Yelena, and their two small daughters. Andy visited our church worship service in January to share an update of their mission work in Nicaragua.

Youth With A Mission is a global movement of Christians from many cultures, age groups, and Christian traditions dedicated to serving Jesus throughout the world. Currently, more than 180 countries are served by YWAM. YWAM missionaries "unite in a common purpose to know God and to make HIm known".

Andy founded the Transformation Library (Biblioteca Transforma) in Managua, NIcaragua to provide Christian resources for anyone interested in Biblical, theological, or pastoral studies with no charge. The library also promotes literacy and Bible study through reading circles, courses on Biblical and theological studies, story time for children, ministry to the blind, and more. The library has a Braille machine which translates the books of the Bible so that the blind may have access to God's Holy Word. Today, the ministry is a place where kids and adults can come and learn about Jesus.





Andy spends significant time communicating with and supporting young leaders at the Biblioteca Transforma ministry and working with the theological training center in Bogota. He has also designed and written the curriculum for a year-long certificate program which he teaches regularly along with courses in the Old Testament.

Your contributions will allow us to support Andy and his family as he continues his mission work. See the Mission Digital Display in the main lobby for pictures and video of Andy and the Transformation Library.

The Mission Committee thanks you for your continued generous support of all of Immanuel's missions.

NEEDS FOR MONTH OF MAY:

Cereal
Pancake Mix
Syrup
Juice
Canned Tuna
Cookies
Ramen Noodles
Crackers



Cereal Pop Tarts Instant Oatmeal Mac-n-Cheese

Missions' Offerings

MAY's Missions Goal: \$1,000.00 MAY's Focus: Andy Cavender & YWAM



CROP Hunger Walk to be held in Needville on May 4

The Fort Bend County CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Saturday, May 4 at 8:00 am at Harvest Park here in Needville.

Seventy five percent of the funds raised by walkers will go to Church World Service to help fight global hunger in over 70 countries worldwide. The remaining 25% will return to Fort Bend County with half of



those funds helping out the Needville Community Food Pantry.

The Missions Committee is challenging our church to recruit at least a dozen walkers to represent our congregation the day of the walk and for them to seek out financial sponsors. If you'd like to participate in the CROP Hunger Walk, participant envelopes are available in the church office.



May 2024

Leaping for Education—Bound by Christ

So excited to see those who are joining us for our SUMMER PROGRAM!!!

This year has flown by so fast! There has been lots of fun days and many memories

May is full of fun things! We will be taking a walking Field Trip to the Albert George Library to enjoy a fun story time! We will finish the year off with a Splash day and lots of fun!

We have been working extra hard on new songs for our End of Year Program on Tuesday, May 1 at 6:00 pm.. There are 10 Prek Graduates heading to Kinder next

Summer is here and we are all looking forward to vacations and family time. See you all in September!

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!

> Our April Memory Verse is: With God all things are possible. Matthew 19:26





SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30pm	Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Sr. Citizens 11:00 am	
			Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30 - 6:00 pm	Welcome Team Mtg 2:00 pm	Catacombs 8:00-11:00 pm (last day for Summer)	
			Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm	Evangelism Committee Mtg 3:00 pm		
				Christian Education Committee 6:30 pm		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am		Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Food Pantry 9:30 - 2:00 pm	Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Sr. Citizens 11:00 am	
		Movie Matinee 2:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30-6:00 pm	Worship Committee 2:00 pm		
		OMP Committee 6:00 pm	Children's Fellowship 4:00-5:30pm (Last day for Summer)	Cub Scouts 6:30 pm		
			Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm	Missions Committee 8:00 pm		
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
Graduation Breakfast 9:00 am		Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm		Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Sr. Citizens 11:00 am	
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship/Perfect Attendance 10:15 am		Fellowship Committee 2:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30-6:00 pm		Women's Guild 2:00 pm	
	Cub Scouts 6:00 pm	L&B Board 4:30 pm Leaps & Bounds Spring Program	Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00 - 8:00 pm (last day for Summer)	Consistory 7:00 pm		
10. 7		6:00 pm	22			1.5
19 Pentecost	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday School 9:00 am Jeopardy Game 9:00 am Worship with Rite of		Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Food Pantry 9:30 - 2:00 pm	Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm NMA Clergy	Sr. Citizens 11:00 am	
Confirmation				10:00 am		
10:15 am		Brotherhood 6:30 pm		2025 EA Convocation Team 6:30 pm		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday School 9:00 am Worship/ABC 10:15 am	Memorial Day Cub Scouts Memorial Day Svc at IEC Cemetery 10:30 am	Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:30-6:00 pm	Leaps & Bounds 8:30 - 2:30 pm	Sr. Citizens 11:00 am	

PRAYER LIST

Sandra Muegge Mark Paweleck Jeanette Balcerowicz Karen Zurek Olie Eixmann Vida Arlitt Corlis Delling Tommy Lovel Harvey Mager

Waymond Schulze Randy Ognoskie Kenneth Raska Clarence & Erna Thielemann Caroline Kost Joy Kramer Darlene Mensik Randall Schmidt Lucille "Ceil" Blunck

Donna Britt Kenneth Warncke Carolyn Kaluza Cecil Tielke David Zwahr Cindy Dearman Dickie Jaymes Dean Dodge



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 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.



- KEITH & ERIN WLECZYK
- **DENIS & GINA LAROCHE** 13
- ART & PAM KLAWITTER 15
- 16 DARREL & GINNY KRAMER
- **DAVID & SHAWN THIELEMANN** 22
- 23 **CHARLES & LINDA OBERRENDER**
- 24 **EDWARD & GLENNYS CAVEY**
- **TOMMY & DEBBY WENDT**



- **CLARENCE & ERNA THIELEMANN**

- 17 **CLIFTON & MELISSA HOLIK**
- STEVE & TINA HOLIK

- 27 **DONALD & DEBORAH LINDEMANN**



- Mark Wendt
- 2 Bernice Schmidt Kelly Arrington
- 3 David Altreche
- Melissa Holik
- Steven Diehl
- Craig Todd
- Kalien Gorka
- **Brent Wuthrich**
- 10 Allene Zwahr
- 12 Johnathon Morton
- 15 Art Klawitter Marc Gadway Nancy Tielke

- 17 Adeline LaRoche
- 18 Corey Kelly
- 21 Daisy Griffith
- 22 Laura Casassa Madison Holik
- 23 Kimberly Grimmett
- 24 Tony Novosad
- 26 Brooke Wuthrich
- 29 Debby Wendt Mary Zwahr
- 30 Virgil Leus
- 31 Harvey Mager



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

Thank you for your support!

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

OPEN MARKETPLACE UPDATE

sure some of you may not be aware of everything we are planning. Open Market Place will be held on Sunday October 13 at the Columbus Hall located in Needville. The meal will consist of turkey, Christian Ed will be doing some things for the children. ham and dressing and the trimmings, with tea and dessert.

Starting with the **desserts**, just like in the past, we will need lots of desserts to be served with the meal.

We will also have a **Bake Shop li**ke we have had in the past years. We will have a Basket Raffle, so please start thinking about ideas that may make a basket to go into the Basket Raffle when you are them ready. out and about this summer.

Auction this year. If you see something this summer that would go good in the auction, keep us in mind.

the past several years for Country Store. They will have the Coun-update on what is being planned since this is our first year going try Store at the Needville City Wide Garage Sale in September back to the Columbus Hall. We plan to keep everyone informed as with all proceeds going to OMP. They have been very successful doing it there, so that is why we made the decision to let them do that at the Garage Sale again. You will be seeing more details later Shirley Hlavaty-Auction, Sandra Zacek-Serving Line, Shirley for that in summer.

Canned Goods-As you prepare for this upcoming canning season, please keep us in mind. We will need all kinds of jelly and jams, pickles, pickled okra, and salsa or whatever else you would like to

can. There are several different options for these canned goods. The Open Market Place Committee would like to take this moment Most can go into the Country Store for September, and we decided to give everyone a brief update on what is being planned for this if there are some leftover canned items, then we will sell them the year. Some of you may already know all of the details, but I am day of OMP in the Bake Shop. You can also make a basket out of them with various other items for our Basket Raffle, or put a basket of your canned goods in our Live Auction.

Raffle Items- If you would like to donate for our ticket raffle, please contact Sharon Roberson or Linda Griffith. Sharon and Linda will be contacting donors from last year soon. We would like to get those items listed by sometime in early July, so that they can start the process of printing the raffle tickets at church and getting

And last, but not least we will be needing lots of volunteers for The Live Auction is back this year. We opted to not do the Silent that day. With us scaling back some, it should not be as many things to move to the hall and back like it was in the past.

We will be meeting in May to finalize a few more details. We The Women's Guild has graciously agreed to do like they have in know it is 5 months off, but just wanted to give everyone a good we move forward with various additional details.

> **OMP Committee:** Brian Zwahr & Cindy Schulze-Co-Chairs, Richter-Desserts, Roxy Graeber & Ann Chambers-Bake Shop, Linda Griffith & Sharon Roberson-Raffle & Meal Tickets, Debby Wendt-Publicity, Deborah Lindemann, and Barbara Sims