

Immanuel Evangelical Church September, 2026



EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION



Adult Class composes praise song



Members of the Adult Sunday School Class composed a new praise song as a class project during their 4-week study of the Early Church in Oxyrhynchus, Egypt.

During the month of August the class looked at important Early Church documents that were dug up by archeologists in an ancient landfill in Oxyrhynchus, Egypt that were important to the faith and worship life of Christians who lived in that city between the first and third centuries A.D. Among them were **The First Hymn** (Oxyrhynchus Hymn) which is the oldest Christian hymn to be found with musical notation and is the earliest hymn to refer to God as "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit," **P52** (Papyrus 52) which is a fragment from the Gospel of John and is the oldest fragment of the New Testament to be found to date, along with the oldest fragment from the **Didache**, a first century catechism.



Class members received a Didache t-shirt (pictured above) as part of the course.

Members of the class also wrote lyrics to a new "First Hymn" to share our faith here in Needville entitled "[Every Step of the Way.](#)" Composing lyrics were Kathy Brown, JoAnn Morton, Becky Oberhoff, Sandra Smith, Debby Wendt and Pastor Ron. These lyrics were crafted together into a song accompanied by A.I. music. The song was shared during worship on August 23, and the song will be shared with the Needville community via a Football Program advertisement starting August 28. Scan QR code above to listen.

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Pastoral Emergencies
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Katie Johnson
Leaps & Bounds Director
Office 979-553-3357



Watson Family Singers in concert September 13 as part of Rally Day

The Watson Family Singers will be performing in concert during worship on Sunday, September 13 at 10:15 am.

The Watson Family are kinfolk of JoAnn Morton and family and last performed here at Immanuel Church last year as special music during the [2025 EA National Convocation](#). We are delighted to have them make music for the Lord again with us this year.

Following worship a lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall by the Men's Brotherhood and the Christian Education Committee. Menu: includes roast beef, rice, gravy, green beans, drinks and dessert.

Also as part of the Rally Day festivities, Bibles will be given out to kids in grades K and 2.

Jackie Moody
Organist/Pianist

Suzanne Brumbelow
Church Secretary
Church Office 979-793-6125
Email office@iecnneedville.org
Mon-Fri 9:00 am -- 1:00 pm

Ron's Ramblings

An A.I. generated faith?

A.I. (Artificial Intelligence”) seems to be the buzzword these days. At one time, it was a futuristic techy term used in science fiction novels and TV series. Today, A.I. is used to help make movies, write books, compose music and more.

A year ago I had no idea what A.I. could do, but was asked to help lead a Zoom seminar for Sunday School teachers for Rotation.org as the newbie on the panel discussing how this new technology might be used in Christian education within the church. To prepare for that seminar I downloaded ChatGPT (an A.I. app) onto my iPhone and used A.I. to convert a couple of family photos into cutesy cartoon images.

A year later I’ve discovered that A.I., this futuristic science fiction thing, is a handy tool for ministry. In the past year I’ve used A.I. to create bulletin covers, PowerPoint graphics for sermon slides, to help do research and publish new pages that have been added to our teens’ Confirmation workbook. A.I. has assisted in helping to refine my writing of Sunday School curriculum, and Deanna and I have used it to help compose both lyrics and music as well as animated graphics for over a dozen new children Sunday School songs that we’ll be using with our Rotation Sunday School.

Recently, church members have used A.I. to design advertising for our annual Open Marketplace fundraiser, and Deanna and I have used it to create a new praise song for our Catacombs ministry entitled, [“Light in the Catacombs.”](#) I even used A.I. to create a YouTube music video for that song featuring an A.I. generated Pastor Ron as a rock-n-roll singer. Ok, my wife thought that was a bit creepy! But as I’ve watched the music video, there are times when I almost think that the guy on the screen might just be me being a rock star! It looks so real.

That’s the blessing and danger of Artificial Intelligence. The computer data processing systems behind A.I. have been able to master graphic arts, music composition, vocals, even life like photorealistic video. What used to take hours, days, weeks or months to produce, can now be generated within minutes to hours at most. A.I. is a ministry time saver.

The downside is that A.I. blurs the line between artificial computer generation and reality. Paintings, photos, music, and video produced by

A.I. can look and sound so real. A.I. can be deceptive that way, in that its creations can become confused for reality. Yet there is still no substitute for the real thing.

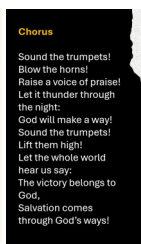
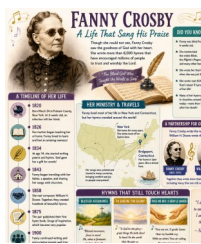
While Artificial Intelligence can create photorealistic images and video that can depict the beauty of creation, the sound of a human voice singing, or a video image of a person that looks almost totally real, nothing can compare to the Author of all creation.

Psalms 19:1 states, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.” For all A.I. can do, nothing can outdo our God who placed the stars in the heavens, created the beauty of a rose, the taste of a peach, or the incredible functionality of human organs within the body. God’s handiwork is simply amazing!

Also, while A.I. can talk to you in almost human terms, assist in research for Bible study, or the composition of music, there is nothing greater than the fellowship of believers gathered in real time and space. Didache 4:2 reminds us “Seek each day the faces of the saints, in order that you can be refreshed by their words.” Acts 2:42,46-47 shares

that the secret of the growth of the Early Church was the time they spent together in person, in real community: “They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer... [They] ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

A.I., as incredible as it is, can’t generate a real encounter with the living God or offer salvation. Jesus states the facts plainly in John 14:6, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.” Enjoy the benefits of Artificial Intelligence, but for the things that matter most, don’t forget to seek out the real thing! Amen.



Screen shot from the YouTube music video “Light in the Catacombs” featuring AI Pastor Ron
Top: Open Marketplace ad, Confirmation workbook page, Sunday School song lyric video.

Immanuel Evangelical Church's **OPEN MARKETPLACE**

Sunday October 11th, 2026 at 11 am
at the Columbus Club Hall on Hwy 36

- **Live Auction**
- **Basket Raffle**
- **Country Store**
 - ★ Canned Goods
 - ★ Baked Goods
 - ★ Plants
 - ★ Crafts
- **Raffle**
- **Children's Activities**

**Turkey and Dressing
Meal With Dessert**
— 11am - 12:30 pm —



Tickets may be purchased at:

- Immanuel Evangelical Church-9018 Church Street (Mon.-Fri.-9:30-12:30)
- Needville Auto Supply (NAPA)-3016 Hwy 36
- Needville Feed & Supply-2811 School St
- Donna's Country Cuts & Styles-18439 Hwy 36-Guy
- Damon Farm & Ranch - Damon, Texas



Meal tickets-\$15.00
Raffle tickets-\$2.00 each
or a book of 6 for \$10

Contact : Linda Griffith 832-595-4899 Sharon Roberson 281-750-1291

**Meal & Raffle Tickets on sale in the
Fellowship Hall after Worship!!!**

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!



Women's Guild treats Needville teachers



18 ladies from Immanuel Women's Guild delivered 100 dozen cookies to all Needville ISD schools and the Administration Office on August 10.

The teachers and staff were very appreciative of our church helping them start the 2026-2027 school year off on a sweet note.

Bell Choir rehearsals to resume September 9th



The Bell Choir will begin rehearsals for the 2026-2027 school year on Sept. 9. Rehearsals are held each Wednesday from 5:30-6:00 pm. We hope to perform once a month September through May with special performances on Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday.

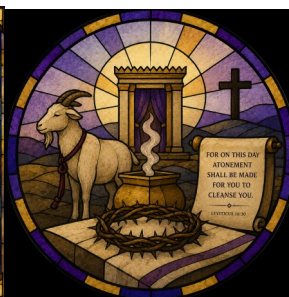
We could always use extra teens or adults of all ages to participate in the Bell Choir. Contact Pastor Ron for more details.

Feast of Trumpets, Feast of Tabernacles coming in Sept.

This year during the month of September, God's fall High Holy Days from the Bible appear on the calendar. They are: Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles.

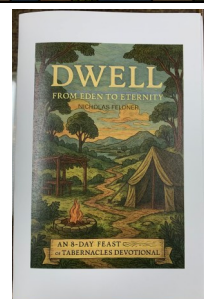
Feast of Trumpets (Yom Teruah) begins at sundown on September 11. Established in Leviticus 23:23-24, this God appointed day is celebrated with the sounding of rams' horns calling God's people into the Lord's presence. Christians use this day to look forward to the Second Coming of Christ at the sound of the trumpet (see Matthew 24:30-31, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Revelation 1:10 and Didache 16:6-8.)

Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) falls on September 20 and recalls how Israel used to symbolically place their sins on a scapegoat to drive sin out of the camp. For Christians, the day is one of remembering that Jesus is "the atoning sacrifice for our



sins... [and] also the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:2)

Finally, **Feast of Tabernacles** (Sukkot) is an 8-day thanksgiving celebration remembering how God journeyed with His people and cared for them in the 40 years of wandering before entering into the Promised Land (Leviticus 23:39-43). Christians not only remember his Biblical story but also recall how God dwells with us in Jesus (John 1:14) and how we will dwell with God in the last days (Revelation 21:1-4). Feast of Tabernacles is celebrated from Sept. 25 to Oct. 2. A special 8-day devotional entitled "Dwell" will be given out to everyone attending worship on Sept. 20 to help them reflect on this 8-day holiday at home and with family.



A 8-day devotional book entitled "Dwell" will be distributed on Sept. 20.

Leaps & Bounds begins 2026-2027 school year



Our 2026-27 Leaps & Bounds Staff: Dana Hawkins, Tammy Schooley, Katie Sabrula, Katie Johnson (Director), Kathy Polak, Denise Jurek



Missions/Outreach

September mission focus: Lion of Judah Academy

Our Missions Committee has chosen Lion of Judah Academy in Tanzania, Africa as our missions offering recipient for September,

Founded by EA missionaries, in 2001, its main goal is to provide an excellent but affordable education to the children of Tanzanian pastors, church workers, and Bible college students as well as to orphans and other disadvantaged children.

The Lion of Judah Academy is a vibrant body of 750 students, who excel in academics, care for one another, and grow daily in commitment to Jesus. Tanzanian education officials express amazement at what is happening at the Academy, and wonder what is so special about it. But many people already realize the truth.....God has done it all! It is a miracle in progress! YOU can be a part of this miracle through your donations!



Founding EA missionaries, Rev. Hart and Lynn Inlow, are pictured at the Lion of Judah Academy during a recent mission trip there this past summer.

100% of your donations go directly to the Lion of Judah Academy in Tanzania! Overhead expenses are paid through specifically designated contributions. Your donations will be used for Bibles, teaching materials, supplies and salaries, scholarship assistance, and the health clinic. Our church has a challenge goal of raising \$1,000.00 for this vital African mission school.

Needville churches provide school supplies to area kids in need

A poster for the Needville Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry. At the top is a logo with a cross and three stylized figures. The text reads 'NEEDVILLE MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE FOOD PANTRY' and 'Serving Our Community with Love and Compassion'. Below this is a calendar icon with a checkmark and the text 'GIVES OUT FOOD ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH'. The bottom section features an image of a church and a box of food items including Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Hungry Jack, Aunt Jemima, StarKist, SPAM, Flour, Sugar, Pancake Mix, Dry Pinto Beans, Cereal, and Instant Potatoes. The text 'TO CONTINUE OPERATION DONATIONS ARE NEEDED ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS!' is prominently displayed. At the bottom, it says 'PO BOX 505 NEEDVILLE, TEXAS' and 'SOME OF THE ITEMS ACCEPTED ARE:'.

NEEDVILLE
MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE
FOOD PANTRY
Serving Our Community with Love and Compassion

GIVES OUT FOOD ON THE
SECOND AND FOURTH
WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH

AT THE
IMMANUEL CHURCH
in Needville

PO BOX 505
NEEDVILLE, TEXAS

TO CONTINUE OPERATION
DONATIONS ARE NEEDED
ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS!

SOME OF THE ITEMS ACCEPTED ARE:

SUGAR FLOUR TUNA SPAM PANCAKE MIX / SYRUP DRY PINTO BEANS CEREAL INSTANT POTATOES and more!



The NMA (Needville Ministerial Alliance) served 65 families and 146 children with backpacks filled with many school supplies. The backpacks were distributed on August 1.

Thank you to members of Carmel Church, Grace Community Church, Global Methodist Church, Immanuel Evangelical Church, and St. Paul's Presbyterian Church for their donations. Also thanks goes out to a number of Immanuel Church members who helped pack the backpacks and distribute the school supplies to the families who came out for a helping hand.

IEC YOUTH

Deanna Shifley, Interim Youth Director
Email: Deanna.shifley@gmail.com
Cell: 567-242-4490
Office: 979-793-6283

End of summer pool party a hit with kids and adults



The Christian Education Committee hosted 41 members of our church family for the annual End of Summer Pool Party at the Needville city pool.

The evening was filled with food and fun. We're thrilled that so many kids, teens and adults showed up for a night of fun and fellowship. Special thanks goes out to the Christian Education committee for sponsoring this event.



Children's Fellowship started up for the 2026-2027 school year on August 26. The kids will be exploring "The Armor of God" on Wednesday nights from 4:00-5:30 pm this fall.



6th Grade Wed. Night Youth Leader
Additional Children's Sunday School Teachers

Contact Pastor Ron for details

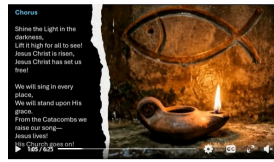
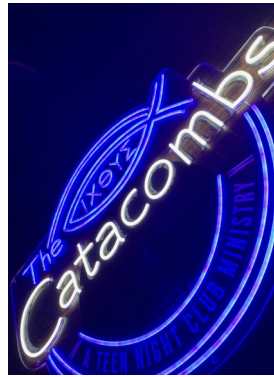
Catacombs returns Sept.18, with exciting new changes!

Catacombs, our Friday night teen outreach ministry returns on September 18 with a new time: from **7:00 to 10:00 pm** Also, Catacombs will now be open to teens in **grades 7-12**.

In addition to the new time schedule and age level, there are a few more exciting changes in the works. First, a new neon sign will be installed in the entrance hallway to greet youth with a cool vibe. The sign was donated by Pastor Ron and Deanna.

Second, in addition to the full slate of recreational activities (basketball, volleyball, air hockey, ping-pong, billiards, PS4 gaming area, retro arcade, karaoke, and the Catacombs Café) we're adding a new weekly event called **"Catacombs Praise."** Teens will gather in the gym towards the end of the night for a brief time of praise and worship. A new praise song entitled "Light in the Catacombs" has been composed over the summer to give teens attending Friday nights an anthem of praise.

Finally, the cooks in the kitchen are working on a menu of once a month specials. Look for them, along with other special events in the coming year. We're hoping to



sponsor a Bible Quiz Bowl, Movie Nights a Comedy Night and more in the months ahead.

We are thankful for the large core group of volunteers that help chaperone Friday nights to help facilitate the fun for our church and community teens in a safe environment to be enjoyed by all.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Fellowship returns for school year



25 junior and senior high youth came out for Opening Night of Youth Fellowship on August 26. The teens enjoyed open gym, a tasty meal by our Wednesday night cooking team, and then shared in a brief time of worship in which the youth were introduced to the new praise song "Light in the Catacombs" composed for our church via an A. I. generated [MTV style parody music video](#). After worship, Nate Gaskamp led the teens in a number of fun fellowship building games.



September

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	6
		<i>Leaps & Bounds Starts 8:30-2:30</i>  <i>Girl Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Children's Ministry 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Youth Ministry 6:00-8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Christian Ed—6:30</i> <i>Cub Scouts Recruitment Night 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens Lunch 11:30 am</i>	
6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>Feast of Trumpets</i>	12
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship 10:15 am</i>	<i>Church Office Closed</i> 	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Fellowship Committee 2:00 pm</i> <i>Girl Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Food Pantry 9:30—12 pm</i> <i>Bell Choir 5:30-6:00 pm</i> <i>Children's Ministry 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Youth Ministry 6:00-8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Missions—6:00</i> <i>Worship—6:30</i> <i>Cub Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens Lunch 11:30 am</i>	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship 10:15 am</i> <i>Watson Family Singers</i> <i>Lunch 11:30 am</i>	<i>Open Market Place Mtg—6:30</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Brotherhood 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Pastor Ron to EA Convocation</i> <i>Children's Ministry 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Youth Ministry 6:00-8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Consistory 7:00 pm</i> <i>EA Board Mtg</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens Lunch 11:30 am</i> <i>Women's Guild 2:00 pm</i> <i>Catacombs begins 7:00-10:00 pm</i> 	
20	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Feast of Tabernacles begins</i>	26
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship 10:15 am</i>		<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Girl Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 pm</i> <i>Children's Ministry 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Bell Choir 5:30-6:00 pm</i> <i>Youth Ministry 6:00-8:00 pm</i>	<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Cub Scouts 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Sr. Citizens Lunch 11:30 am</i> <i>Catacombs 7:00-10:00 pm</i>	
27	28	29	30			
<i>Sunday School 9:00 am</i> <i>Worship 10:15 am</i>		<i>Leaps & Bounds 8:30-2:30</i> <i>Girl Scouts- 6:30 pm</i>	<i>Children's Ministry 4:00-5:30 pm</i> <i>Bell Choir 5:30-6:00 pm</i> <i>Youth Ministry 6:00-8:00 pm</i>			

Mark Paweleck
Tommy Lovel
Keith Warncke
Brandon Beck
Cindy Schulze
Sue Hurta
Cecil Tielke
John Spears
Curtis Walzel
Harvey Mager

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Christ
Barbara Sims
Barbara Schroeder
Erna Thielemann
Clarence Thielemann
Becky Tabler
Corlis Delling

Paul Flessener
Glynn & Bernice Schmidt
Barbara James
Norma Freund
Rev. Jim Barnes
Shirley Richter
Nathan Gaskamp

Florence Gaskamp
Yvonne Lingnau
Rodney Elster
WC Todd
Glennys Cavey
Casey Schmidt
Robert Hallgren
Paul & Brenda Butler



		16	Margaret Ley
		17	Cade Macik Janet Raesner Brandi Schwaiger Alexis Zwahr
		19	Genesis Morales Jarrod Stasney
1	Gina Weidemann	20	Darrin Hedt Clifton Holik Colt Klemstein Shelby Macik
3	Carl McClellan	21	Evelyn Schmidt Dylan Sevidge Sloan Sullivan
5	Melissa Kostelnik	22	Kimberly Antrich Sandra Oberrender Kallie Miller
6	Ava Casassa	23	Casey Chapman
7	Graham Manville Bobby Zwahr Jr.	24	Connie Gorka Justin Pineda
8	Chase Miller Shelly Schmidt	25	Norma Freund Tommy Gaskamp Caroline Macik
9	Colton Antrich Marilyn Carson Madelynn Morton Cohyn Warncke Brighym Warncke	27	Aubrey Chumchal Kevon Fuchs Kelsey Griffith Jayden Morales
11	Dana Morton	29	Cynthia Schulze
12	Addie Richter Judah Williamson	30	Cynthia Chumchal Casey Todd
13	Charlie Griffith Ethan Lozano		
14	Ike Fredrickson Kelli Horak		
15	Carson Faas Tate Richter Ashlynn Rueda		



September 1
Keith & Melissa Kostelnik

September 5
W Lee & Sharon Hedt

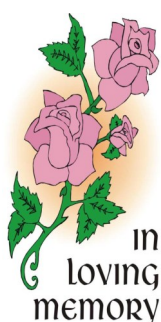
September 7
Rodney & Sheila Elster

September 12
Chad & Daisy Griffith

September 15
Pastor Ron & Deanna Shifley

September 18
Richard & Sandra Oberrender

September 19
**Andy & Rose Askew
Chantz & Kristi Klemstein
Greg & Kimberly Antrich**



Our love and sympathy go out to the family of **Carolyn Kaluza**, 97, who went home to be with the Lord on July 26, 2026. Her Funeral was held on July 30 at Davis Greenlawn Funeral Home. Please lift her family in your prayers.



The Immanuel Church Family threw a surprise celebration for Pastor Ron on August 16 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination. Worship was changed up at the last minute to reflect on his 30 years of service. Afterwards a spaghetti dinner was held in the Fellowship Hall and Pastor Ron received gifts of a replica of the Oxyrhynchus Hymn and a needlepoint of the church. "Thanks to everyone who helped make this day special!"



IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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