

IMMANUEL ECHO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



IMMANUEL BAPTIST
"GOD WITH US" CHURCH

AT A GLANCE THOUGHTS & MORE

Beautiful Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

This refers not to material or intellectual poverty, but to a spiritual state of humility and self-awareness before God. It highlights recognizing one's complete dependence on God's grace and mercy, rather than relying on one's own righteousness or abilities.

In essence, being "poor in spirit" is the starting point for a genuine relationship with God. It is the doorway to receiving His forgiveness, experiencing inner peace, and aligning lives with His will.

Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted."

This verse speaks to a deep spiritual truth about God's response to sorrow and brokenness. The verse means that those who experience sorrow, grief, or remorse for their sins and for the brokenness of the world will ultimately find comfort and peace from God. This beatitude encourages believers to embrace the natural human experience of sorrow and to seek God in the midst of it, trusting in His promise of comfort, forgiveness, and eternal hope.

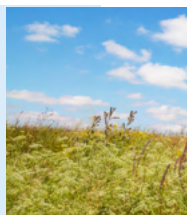
Sunday

9:30 am - Coffee & Fellowship

10 am - Worship

Wednesday

11:30 am - Soup Kitchen



HELPFUL INFO

Scan for More Info
& our App!

ibcminot.org
1615 2nd St SE
Minot, ND 58701
(701) 839-3694
Office Hours:
M-F 8 am-Noon



AUGUST Highlights

- Back to school - South Prairie 8/19
- Back to school - Minot & Berthold 8/20

"Heavenly Father, we thank you
for this new school year. Bless
the students, teachers, parents,
and administrators. Grant them
wisdom, strength, and guidance
as they learn, teach, and lead.
May your peace and presence be
with them throughout the year.
Amen."

MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor

Brian Keithline

Pianist

Dawn Bergeron

Visitation Minister

Karen Anderson

Office Manager

Lori Stauffer

Technology

Bryer Samuelson

Nursery

Lexi Clementich



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Karen's Corner

Happy August, Church! How is it August already? Whew, the summer months are just flying by! Schools will be starting soon and our Church will be back on our regular school year schedule. Before that, though, I hope you'll be able to squeeze some more joy out of this season before we move into the next.

Speaking of back to school time, I'm going to have a back to school lunch and games day at the church on **Friday, August 22 at 12:30**. I think we all know someone who is returning to school or we can remember how exciting it was returning to school ourselves so I thought it would be nice to celebrate back to school! Please mark your calendars and join me at the church for lunch, games, and fellowship! Please remember, if you'd like to get together for a visit, a phone call, or have a prayer need, give me a call, 701-578-4665.

"The LORD your God is among you, a warrior who saves. He will rejoice over you with gladness. He will be quiet in his love. He will delight in you with singing."

Zephaniah 3:17

Grace & peace, Karen



Cows & Creamery Fun!



And the food!

Evening Women Fellowship

We will be taking this month off, so relax and enjoy the last days of summer. We will meet in September @ my house for soup! More info to come.

Thanks, **Wanda**

White Cross

Please keep saving cancelled stamps for Wycliffe, and pop tabs for McDonalds. We are making a difference! Also let's fill our coin jar! We will be teaming up with Evening Women's Fellowship for a diaper drive this September!

The diaper pantry has been relocated to Delight & Co., which is also a non profit child care located in the old YMCA downtown.

Thanks, **Marliss**.

Stewardship Report

As of July 27, 2025:	\$211,649.70
TOTAL BUDGETED TO DATE	\$182,092.20
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE	\$7,054.99
BUDGETED WEEKLY NEED	\$6069.74
WEEKLY YTD AVERAGE	

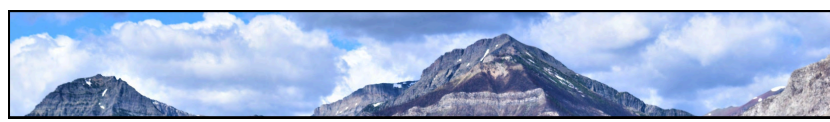
Upcoming Meetings

CE Board - Monday, August 4th @ 7:30 pm

Trustee Board - Tuesday, August 12th @ 5:30 pm

**"IF THE ENEMY
CAN KEEP US COMFORTABLE
THEN HE HAS DONE HIS JOB.
HE DOESN'T WANT
BELIEVERS TO MAKE WAVES."**

~LESLIE FARMER



THE UNCOUNTED ATTENDEE AT THE STATE FAIR

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them” (Mt. 18:20, NIV).

Jesus once said that when two or more people are gathered in His name, something remarkable happens: His presence is with them. Now what if that number increases to two-or-three thousand people? Want to go higher?! What about the 356,552 people who attended the North Dakota State Fair last week? Was Jesus there (and if so, did he need a wristband for the rides)?

You see, it's easier to assert that Jesus's presence is with us when we're neatly tucked into our favorite rows and pews at church. However, it's more difficult to define how Jesus's "transcendence" — the divine experience of God in this physical world — applies when we're among the carnival rides, the funnel cake stands, the livestock exhibits, and among the roar of engines and the crunch of iron at the demolition derby.

But something almost imperceptible happened last week at the state fair. In the midst of a week that garnered national attention — from the B-52 flyover that sent a Delta commercial pilot jockeying to take evasive action to country star Luke Bryan being beamed with a stress ball while performing onstage — something less conspicuous happened during the nine-day run. *Can you take a guess?*

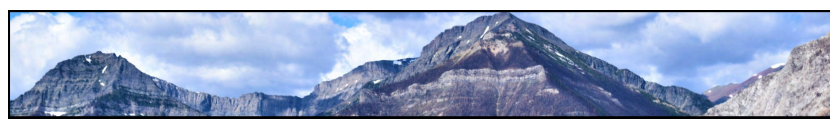


Throughout the event, Christian volunteers took turns wandering the fairgrounds as purveyors of nothing more than prayer and as representatives equipped with nothing more than a smile (and well, of course, the Holy Spirit). Their only concession was "intercession" — among the stands of corn dogs, funnel cakes, and other fried food, they offered something spiritually sweet — to let others know that God cares about his peoples' needs.

To be honest, I think the idea of intercessory prayer is frightening to most people, and in particular, to some Christians. Why? The concept of this is rather spontaneous and it relies on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. For example, I have attended community functions in the past where Christian "vendors of the Gospel" have forcefully tried to negotiate and to manipulate non-believers into making an impromptu confession of faith. For some of these Christians, had they been well-trained in knot-tying and had enough length of braided rope, they would have hogtied the reluctant unbelievers and carried them to church to await Pastor's next sermon.

Continued ...





THE UNCOUNTED ATTENDEE AT THE STATE FAIR

But coercive techniques are not the nature of intercession, instead, it is born of a passion for truth and of a genuine concern for others — and that's the “scare factor” for most Christians. We have to be completely convinced that God desires us to be so passionate for our faith that we're willing to greet strangers with the phrase, “How can I pray for you?” The fearful part is that many of us have a Jonah-like reaction to the realization that SOME of these strangers might actually reply back. (Jonah fled God — only to be swallowed by a whale — because he knew the “outsiders,” the Ninevites would positively respond to God's invitation to prayer and repentance).

Since the permissive revolution (the “anything goes” attitude) that has permeated society since the '60s and '70s, it seems that a majority of Americans have gradually modified Jesus's words ... “when two or more are gathered, don't say anything religiously or culturally offensive ... after all, God is everywhere ... as a quiet, introspective onlooker.” The reality, however, is that — more than likely — all of the 356,552 visitors to the state fair had at least one prayer-worthy concern on their hearts and minds. If we don't reach out to them, we'll never know their concerns.

It's one of the decisive factors as to why some churches are growing ... and others are merely “maintaining” (a church analytical term that refers to merely sustaining the “status quo”).



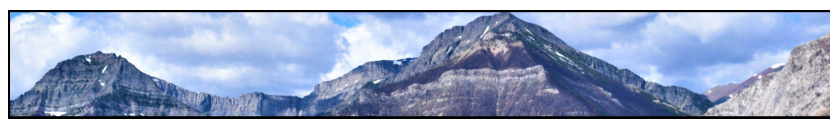
Do we truly believe that there is a God who cares about ALL people to the extent that he wants us — as believers rooted in our faith — to feel comfortable enough to ask a stranger if he or she needs prayer? Do we trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us into situations in which our words and our presence can indeed introduce Christ into the mix of our conversations? Do we feel passionate enough to prioritize God above everything else? It's a tough, reflective question.

We all want a break from the doldrum of our ordinary lives — hence the appeal of an annual event like the North Dakota State Fair. In the crowd of people and in the charged atmosphere of carnival food, loud music, and excited voices, we discover a sensation that is so much larger than ourselves — we're part of a bigger picture on earth.

Perhaps this illustration will be helpful: a well-known Christian in Minot was among the volunteers at the fair who spotted a man in the crowd that caught his attention. This individual was wincing in pain. When he paused to rest, the Christian casually greeted him, and asked, “Is there anything I can pray about for you?” Initially, the man grunted and said, “Nope, there's nothing that I need.” But as he started to walk away, the man put his hand on his knee — visibly in pain. He called back out, “You know what, actually there IS something. I've been having knee trouble for a while, and it's starting to affect everything in my life ... and I just don't know what to do.” The Christian replied, “Well, let's start with a prayer ...” to which the man was more than agreeable.

Continued ...





THE UNCOUNTED ATTENDEE AT THE STATE FAIR

You see, intercessory prayer is as its name implies: it's a prayer between two or more people to invite Jesus into their midst. While we can never predict God's final response to such a prayer, one undeniable event already has taken place — Jesus IS there. So, let's take him everywhere.

We don't have to mingle among a crowd of 356,552 for something remarkable to happen ... it begins with some simple math: $1 + 1 = 2$... and one-by-one God will grant us those moments where we can say: "How can I pray for you?"

After all, we know how it felt when someone asked us those "spiritually sweet" words — at some point in our own lives — *"Can I pray for you?"*

Blessings,

Pastor Brian



VBS
2025





IMMANUEL CELEBRATES
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



August Birthday's

2 nd	Mike Knoop	25 th	Gwen Johnson
4 th	Terri Jager	26 th	Keagen Schneider
5 th	Ray Haas	28 th	Bonnie Holmen
7 th	Rodney Lund	29 th	Jan Schneider
8 th	Scott Stauffer	30 th	Cara Lund
9 th	Cheryl DeWaal Malefyt		
11 th	Heston Faul		
14 th	Monte Espe		
15 th	Dianna Melhoff		
16 th	Sue Bovee		
18 th	Tim Miller		
20 th	Nancy Snyder		
22 nd	Jon Wisthoff		

August Serving Committee

Karen Anderson, Leah Faul,
JoNell Gibson, Karen Radke

Greetings Friends,

As peach season is coming in August, we are in need of volunteers to help us at the peach stand. Our tentative schedule is:

Monday August 11th, 18th, & 25th 10 -2pm or 2-6pm
Tuesday August 12th, 19th, or 26th 10am-2pm or 2-6 pm
Wednesday August 13th, 20th, or 27th 10-1pm or 2-6pm

Please contact our office 701-839-4660 to sign up for the time slots that you can volunteer.

Thank you so much,
Minot YFC

Please remember, we don't only sell Colorado peaches, we take the profit from peach sales and utilize those profits to impact the youth of our community.



August 4th

Jon & Karen Anderson

August 12th

David & Ardis Loock

August 23rd

Jimmy & Racia Toben

➤NEXT➤ MONTH

- Labor Day 9/1
- Rally Day
- Fall Schedule Starts
- ABY Conv. @ Bentley 9/20-21
- Lisa Harper Conf. (see below!)

09/26-28

Bismarck, ND

Evangel Church

Women's

Conference &

Sunday Services

Lisa Harper is Coming to
Bismarck!

There will be two sessions. For
more info go to:

<https://www.lisaharper.org/calendar>

Karen and some ladies are
planning to attend the first
session. Feel free to visit with
Karen if you are interested.



August

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 10 am Bible Study	2
3 9:30 am Coffee 10:00 am Worship	4 7:30 pm CE Meeting	5	6 11:30 Soup Kitchen	7 9am Brunch Bunch Parker	8 10 am Bible Study	9
10 9:30 am Coffee 10:00 am Worship	11	12 5:30 pm Trustee Meeting	13 11:30 Soup Kitchen	14 9am Brunch Bunch Homesteaders	15 10 am Bible Study	16
17 9:30 am Coffee 10:00 am Worship	18	19 1 st Day of School! South Prairie	20 11:30 Soup Kitchen 1 st Day of School! Berthold & MPS	21 9am Brunch Bunch Parker	22 10 am Bible Study 12:30 Sr. Sts Back to School Lunch & Games	23
24/31 9:30 am Coffee 10:00 am Worship	25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27 11:30 Soup Kitchen	28 9am Brunch Bunch Homesteaders	29 10 am Bible Study	30