

IMMANUEL ECHO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



IMMANUEL BAPTIST
"GOD WITH US" CHURCH



AT A GLANCE THOUGHTS & MORE



Do you wash the windows?

Here's something I haven't thought of until recently: IBC has a window washer, and she is great!

She shows up on time, works hard, and is very sweet. As I was getting ready for Delane's funeral, and I wanted our church home to be ready and inviting for our family and friends -- I noticed ...

ALL THE FINGERPRINTS!

Mostly from the waist down! So, there I was sitting on the floor doing the windows!

I had just thought that I got them all when I realized, they were on both sides! As I was sitting there, I got to thinking, I don't have to worry about little fingerprints at my house anymore. It made me kind of melancholy as I reminisced about days gone by. - (Cont'd.)

HELPFUL INFO

ibcminot.org
1615 2nd St SE
Minot, ND 58701
701-839-3694



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& our App!



Sunday's thru 5/17

9 am - Fellowship
9:15 am - Sun. School
10:30 am - Worship
Starting 5/24
10 am - Worship


Wednesday thru 5/13

5:45 pm - Wed. Meal
6:15 pm - K-5 & Middle
School Start
6:30 pm - HS & Adult Start

May Highlights

- **5/3 Family Banquet**
- **5/4 Evening Women Fellowship**
- **5/10 Mother's Day/ Last Sunday**
- **School for the season**
- **5/13 Last Wed. night for the season**
- **5/17 Appreciation Breakfast**
- **5/21 Prayer Night**
- **5/22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- **5/24 Summer Schedule Starts/ Pentecost**
- **5/25 Memorial Day/Office Closed**
- **5/31 Leave for Mission Trip**
- **Camp Bentley Starts! See Calendar**

MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor Brian Keithline	Pianist Dawn Bergeron
Youth Director Brittany Lohan	Office Manager Lori Stauffer
Visitation Minister Karen Anderson	Nursery Emily Stauffer/Alice Galeas
Technology Position Open	 Like us on Facebook ibcminot

AT A GLANCE THOUGHTS & MORE

(Cont'd.)...

I don't really remember thinking or worrying about fingerprints when I had my littles. Then I realized I was probably overwhelmed and that was one more thing that got moved to the back burner.

I got a little in my head, and was thinking "ugh! I don't want people to think I'm slacking." But, so often when I get like that, the Holy Spirit starts to do his thing! He reframes things for me a lot. I heard:

"You know, a few months ago, our home did not have fingerprints on windows, or sticky spots on doors, or crying babies in the Nursery, or you fill in the blank." Truth!

"Is this a sign your church home is ready to welcome and minister to the young families that you need to grow?"

Yes! It's what I (we've) been praying for. Now I see them and smile.

I know it makes more work, But, I'm ready ... are you?

- Lori 😊

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who participated in our members Quarterly Business Meeting. If you didn't receive the preliminary financial reports, and would like a copy, please contact the office. Any questions may be directed to the Board of Trustees.

Upcoming Meetings

- **Trustee Board - Tue., May 14 @ 5:30 pm**
- **Diaconate Board - Tue., May 14 @ 7 pm**
- **Christian Education - TBA**

CE News

Busy! Busy! Busy!

So much to celebrate as we wrap up the 2025-2026 education year! Thank you to EVERYONE who made Easter a success! And "thank you!" to those who teach our classes, participate in our classes, and just support our discipleship programs!

Coming up for May:

- **10th** Mother's' Day in the music room! Regular Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.
- **13th** Last Wednesday Night for summer
- **17th** 9:15 am - Appreciation Breakfast
- **24th** Summer Schedule starts. No Sunday School and **Worship begins @ 10:00 am**
- **26-29th** Work Camp at Camp Bentley
- **27-28th** Counselor Training
- **29-31st** Mens Roundup
- **31st** Leave for Mission Trip!

Have a great Summer!

**SUMMER
TIME**



Karen's Corner

A big shout out to everyone who donated to the toilet paper drive!! We were able to donate over 245 rolls of toilet paper to Youth Works for distribution throughout our community! We will be doing this again!!

May is here and as soon as the weather warms up and stays that way, it'll feel like Spring!

This month is famously known for both its endings and beginnings. The school year ends for most students, along with our usual "school year" activities here at church. However, new beginnings await as graduation happens this month and perhaps you're ready to try something new, too.

Something I encourage you to try, especially since we're only in by a few books of the Bible is joining us for the Bible Hike. No, we don't actually take a physical hike, but we are taking a spiritual hike through the Bible. We do watch videos, but we also learn and discuss the books we've just heard about. It is SO informative and is helping us to find Jesus in every book, yes, every book of the Bible!! It's very informal and low-key but definitely worth your time to join us. We usually meet the **1st and 3rd Thursdays** of the month from **1:00-3:00 p.m. at the church**. This month we meet on **May 7th and 21st**.

We will be having our last **Senior Friday Fun Day** until September on **Friday, May 22 at 12:15 pm**. Please join us for lunch, conversation and fellowship. You may even get hooked into playing a game or two for a little friendly competition.

We will still be having our regular **Friday Morning Bible study** throughout the summer at **10:00 a.m. at the church**. Right now we are studying the book of Joshua, it's never too late to join us!

I pray you are able to enjoy the change that is happening all around as Spring begins to bloom. If you would like to have a visit or have a special concern in your heart that I can help you with, please contact me. I love to pray and visit and would consider it a privilege to do that with you!

One last thing, there is a group of us from IBC heading to Florida on May 31-June 9 for a serving opportunity at Give Kids The World. We would really covet and appreciate your prayers as we prepare to go and while we're there.

Blessings to you – Karen

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!"
2 Corinthians 5:17 CSB





Evening Women Fellowship

Come & join us! Monday, May 4th, 5:30 pm @ Joes Italian Restaurant. Please call or text me if you plan on attending so, I can make reservations. (721-7434) Thanks, **Wanda**



We will be going to Prairie Garden & Bistro in Mohall Tuesday, June 2nd Please meet @ the Church @ 10:30 am to load the van!



Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendar!
VBS is coming,
July 6 - 8
Planning meeting TBA!

Happy Easter He is Risen!





IBC Youth

Almost Summer

As we conclude the academic year, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone: the youth, the children, and the church community – all have shown remarkable growth and development.

Our environment has been filled with vibrant laughter and tears of joy, which is a blessing. Thank you for a wonderful academic year. But that's not all – we have exciting summer events and activities planned for all ages, so please stay tuned.

Enjoy the warm weather and feel free to reach out to me by e-mail, text, or call.



April Events Completed:

- Easter Sunday Egg hunt: 30 children participated
- Spring Fun Day: 110 attend - Games, Bingo, Crafts, Food and Treats
- Business Meeting - the mission team served over 100 people a delicious meal of Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Beans, Cole Slaw and Dessert.
- Mr. Magic & Orchestra concert at Minot High School. Several of our own were part of the City Wide orchestra concert. Keegan and Blake were part of the Mr. Magic Contest to win money for the organization they support. Blake represented Track and Keegan was the representative for DECA.
- Ryan Stevenson and Jacob Rocky concert at Journey Church

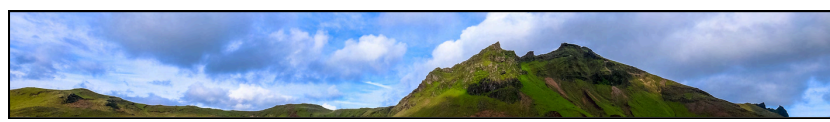
Further May events:

End of the Year party for youth - TBD

Mission/ Retreat - We will be getting ready and preparing for our trip to Give Kids the World.



Hello SUMMER



DON'T BURY WHAT THE LORD ENTRUSTS

“So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you” (Mt. 25:25).

As a kid, I remember digging holes in the backyard. The hope was that the deeper the hole, the more likely the shovel would strike buried treasure. I had watched enough Indiana Jones movies and pirate cartoons to convince me that “X” really could mark the spot — and at one time, I even drew my own treasure map.

But all I ever found was dirt. Maybe a few fishing-grade earthworms. And then, more dirt. The clay of Colorado didn't help much either — it seemed to resist every attempt to go deeper. And somehow, when it came time to fill the hole back in, there never seemed to be as much dirt as there was when I started.

Jesus tells a story in Matthew 25:14–30 about a man who did bury treasure — not out of imagination, but out of fear.

In the Parable of the Talents, a master (representing Christ) entrusts his servants with immense wealth before leaving on a journey. A “talent” wasn't a skill—it was a staggering amount of money, roughly equal to twenty years of a laborer's wages. The expectation wasn't perfection, but faithfulness. Two servants step forward with initiative and courage, investing what they've been given. The third does nothing. He digs a hole and buries it.

Not because he couldn't act—but because he was afraid.

And that fear reveals something deeper: he misunderstood his master. He saw him as harsh, demanding, and unsafe to trust. And so instead of engaging, he withdrew.

Instead of investing, he preserved. What was entrusted to him sat unused—untouched—un-multiplied.

The issue wasn't that he lost anything. It's that he didn't do anything.



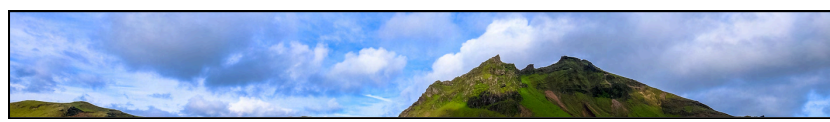
So what does this mean for the church?

Our church has been blessed with something we've prayed for — the presence of young families and their children. Through events like the Fall Festival and Spring Fun Day, we've opened our doors, and now those doors are being filled with life.

Kids are walking (and running) through the hallways. There's laughter, noise, fingerprints on the windows, toys left behind, and the occasional toddler proudly driving a plastic blue car through the lobby.

They're learning Bible stories. They're praying. They're forming their earliest understanding of what it means to belong to the people of God. In fact, one Sunday, a little girl ran up to me after the announcements just to make sure that the church knew her dad's birthday was coming up. That's not disruption—that's discipleship beginning to take root.

Continued ...



DON'T BURY WHAT THE LORD ENTRUSTS

God has entrusted us with something meaningful here.

The question is: what will we do with it?

Because if we're honest, it's easy for a church to pray for growth—and then feel uncomfortable when it arrives. The noise. The mess. The unpredictability. And yet, I would rather hear all of that noise than the silence of empty hallways. That noise is evidence of life. It's a sign that something entrusted to us is being used, not buried.

The call of this parable isn't reckless risk—it's faithful engagement. It's stepping into what God has placed in our hands and participating in His work with joy. To give, to build, to invest, to serve—this is where the Master's joy is found. Even our resources, our space, and our energy are meant to serve that purpose. Not hidden away, not held tightly, but leveraged for life and growth and ministry.

Jesus gave a strong warning in Matthew 18:6 about causing a child to stumble.

“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea” (Mt. 18:6).

That alone should shape how we think about the presence of children among us—not as an inconvenience, but as a responsibility and a gift.

So talk to them. Encourage them. Laugh with them—even when they guess your age wildly wrong (which, I can confirm, they will). One said ninety-nine. Another guessed sixty-five. One generously offered “a million.”

And maybe that's part of the point.

As a kid, I dug holes hoping to find treasure that wasn't there. But today, I don't have to imagine it. I can see it. I can hear it. It's running through our hallways, laughing, learning, growing. Let's not bury what God has clearly placed in front of us. Because what we do with what He entrusts to us matters—not just for today, but for the joy of the Master when He returns.



Blessings,

Pastor Brian



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

*Song of Solomon 2:12
Flowers appear on the earth; the season of
singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard
in our land.*

1
10:00
Bible Study

2
10-2:00 pm
Craft Day (bring
sack lunch)
3:00 pm Premiere of
"Medora" @ Oak
Park Theatre

3
9:00 am Coffee
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Family Banquet

4
5:30 pm
Evening Women Fellowship
meet @ Joe's Italian
Restaurant

5

6
11:30 Soup Kitchen
5:45 Family Supper
6:15 K-5th & Middle
School Start
6:30 HS & Adult
Start

7
9am Brunch Bunch
Homesteaders
1pm Bible Hike

8
10:00
Bible Study

9

10 *Mother's Day*
9:00 am Coffee
9:15 Sunday School
Muffins for Mom & Craft
in Choir room
10:30 am Worship

11

12
5:30 pm Trustees
Meeting
7pm Diaconate
Meeting

13
11:30 Soup Kitchen
5:45 Family Supper
6:15 K-5th & Middle
School Start
6:30 HS & Adult
Start

14
9am Brunch Bunch
Parker

15
NO Bible Study

16

17
9:15 am Appreciation
Breakfast
10:30 am Worship

18

19

20
11:30 Soup Kitchen

21
9am Brunch Bunch
Homesteaders
1pm Bible Hike

22
10:00
Bible Study
12:15 Senior Saints
Lunch & Games
Newsletter
Deadline

23

24
Summer Schedule
Starts
10:00 am Worship
10:00 am Worship
Leave for Mission Trip!

25
THANK YOU
FOR SERVING
OUR COUNTRY
PROTECTING
OUR
FREEDOM
Office Closed

26

27
11:30 Soup Kitchen
COUNSELOR TRAINING 5/27-28
WORK CAMPS/26-29

28
9am Brunch Bunch
Parker

29
10:00
Bible Study

30
MEN'S ROUNDUP 5/29-31

May Birthday's

Happy Birthday

2nd **Bonnie Wiedrick**
7th **Laurel Schlag**
10th **Donna Hegstad**
Brian Keithline
McClain Roberts
Tim Eaton
11th **Alina Stauffer**



12th **Brody Hansen**
16th **Pat Bolyard**
17th **Leo Stauffer**
19th **Walter Rademacher**
21st **Deb Sisco**
23rd **Faith Hegstad**
24th **JoNell Gibson**

Happy Anniversary

May 2nd

Brian & Brittany Lohan

May 23rd

Brian & Ruth Skar

May Serving Committee

Pat Bolyard, Ardis Look
Michele Schimke

next month
next month

- 5/31-6/8 Mission Trip
- 6/5-7 Women's Retreat Camp Bentley
- 6/14-20 Junior High Camp
- 6/21-26 Junior Camp
- 6/21 Father's Day



*Don't have
Church Center
yet? Scan the
QR code to get
started!*



The Immanuel Echo

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1615 2nd St. SE
Minot, ND 58701-6314



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