2025 | Vol. 29, Issue 10

IMMANUEL ECHO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



AT A GLANCE **HOUGHTS & MORE**

Beautiful Beatitudes

Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

This beatitude means that those who show compassion, kindness, and forgiveness to others will receive the same from God. It is a call to demonstrate God's character in the world, showing mercy even when it's not deserved, as a reflection of the grace believers have received from God.

Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

This beautitude emphasizes spiritual purity and inner sincerity over outward appearances or ceremonial cleanliness. "Pure in heart" signifies a single-minded devotion to God, free from corrupt desires, doublemindedness, and mixed motives. Seeing God is understood as experiencing His presence, a deeper spiritual connection, and receiving God's reward in His kingdom.

The beatitude also connects to the idea of God's kingdom, where righteousness will ultimately prevail, and those who long for it will be blessed to experience its fullness.



Sunday

9 am - Fellowship 9:15 am - Sun. School 10:30 am - Worship

Wednesday

11:30 am - Soup Kitchen 5:45 pm - Wed. Meal 6:15 pm - K-5 & Middle School Start 6:30 pm - HS & Adult Start

HELPFUL INFO

ibcminot.org

1615 2nd St SE Minot, ND 58701

(701) 839-3694 Office Hours: M-F8 am-Noon

& our App!



Scan for More Info

October Highlights

10/8 - 6:30 p.m. - Carve Pumpkins for Pumpkin Walk

10/10 - Evening - Pumpkin Walk w/Karen

10/11 - 1-5 pm - Fall Festival '25 - Free Fall Fun & Food!

10/12 - Advisory Board Meeting

10/15 - No Wednesday Activities/Open Youth Room

10/19 - (After Church) IBCY Fundraiser meal **Ouarterly Business Meeting**

10/24 - Senior Saints Fun Day



MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor

Brian Keithline

Youth Director Brittany Lohan

Visitation Minister

Karen Anderson

Technology Position Open **Pianist**

Dawn Bergeron

Office Manager

Lori Stauffer

Nursery

Lexi Clementich



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Karen's Corner

Well, here it is -October! Fall is well underway, and the trees are magnificent!!

There is a new Bible Study beginning on Friday, Oct. 3, at 10 a.m. It is "The Way of Wisdom" and we'll be studying the book of Proverbs. We'd love to have you join us (everyone is welcome!).

We've got some other fun Fall things lined up for this month such as on **Sat., Oct. 4, Craft Day from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** You can bring a favorite craft project to work on, check out what other people are working on, and maybe this month we'll get the IBC puzzle table going. Or, you can just come and visit! Lunch will be potluck for everyone to share and enjoy together.

On Wednesday, Oct. 8, beginning at 6:30 p.m., we will be carving pumpkins! (Or come for supper at 5:45 p.m.) Pumpkins will be provided! We have pledged 15 carved pumpkins to be donated to the Minot Parks Pumpkin Walk in Woodland Trail on the 10th and 11th. If you cannot make it to the church to carve that evening but would like to carve a pumpkin to donate, please let me know. I will deliver a pumpkin to you earlier in the week and you can carve it at home. I will then pick it up on or before the morning of the 9th. Let's see if we can get more than 15! If you're feeling adventurous, I plan on attending the Pumpkin Walk in the 10th, I'd love to have you join me.

We will be hosting Fall Fest 2025 at IBC on Saturday, Oct. 11th from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. It promises to be a fun afternoon full of food, Fall fun, and fellowship!! Be on the lookout for more info. Also, if you're interested in helping with Fall Fest, contact Pastor, Lori, or Brittany and they'll find something for you to help with!

Toward the end of the month on Friday, Oct. 24, we will be having Senior Saints Fun Day, beginning at 12:30 p.m. here at the church. Please come and join us for a delicious lunch provided for you by someone in my family and stick around to play some of favorite games for a little friendly competition, fellowship, and conversation!

Remember: the month we'll be over before we know it. I hope you'll get out to enjoy the beautiful fall scenery and weather before it changes.

May your days be filled with the love and grace of Jesus! – **Karen**

"I pray that God, who gives peace, will make you completely holy. And may your spirit, soul, and body be kept healthy and faultless until our Lord Jesus Christ returns." 1 Thessalonians 5:23

IBC Youth

IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE SERVING AS THE YOUTH DIRECTOR FOR THE LAST MONTH. SERVING THE YOUTH HAS BEEN THE MOST EXCITING PART OF MY WEEK, AND THROUGH OUR COLLABORATION, THE YOUTH HAVE STARTED TO FIND NUMEROUS WAYS TO GROW THE PROGRAM.

SUCCESSES:

- CAMP BENTLEY IBC YOUTH SPENT THE WEEKEND CLOSING OUT THE SUMMER DURING THE ABY CONVENTION WORSHIPPING THE LORD!
- YOUTH ROOM MODERNIZATION COME ON BY AND SEE THE UPDATES.

FUTURE EVENTS:

10/8-OPEN IBCY ROOM @ 1:40! PUMPKIN CARVING FOR THE PUMPKIN WALK AT WOODLAND PARK

10/11- FALL FESTIVAL SETUP (11 AM-1 PM). FESTIVAL (1-5 PM)

10/15- OPEN YOUTH ROOM (4 PM)

10/18- YOUTH FELLOWSHIP AND BAKING DESSERTS TO PREPARE YOUTH PROVIDING MEAL ON 19TH.

10/19 - YOUTH MEAL FUNDRAISER

10/25 - "PARENT DAY OUT" CHILD CARE 11-5PM.
SIGN UP AVAILABLE SOON.

10/29- 4PM YOUTH PREPARING FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL.

- BRITTANY



Evening Women Fellowship

This month's meeting will be at the home of Holly Fegley, Tuesday, Oct. 21st. We will meet at the church at 6:15 pm to ride together in the van.

Mary Lou will be leading lesson #9
"Contagious Hope". If you don't have a
book, please let me know! (721-7434) don't
forget your Backpack Buddy items. Hope
you will join us!
Thanks, – Wanda

White Cross

A **BIG** thank you to everyone who brought diapers & wipes! We will bless many! We have been working on exit bags, but, we have so much material (Thanks again Eugene!) we are discussing further projects!

- Marliss

Hebrews 13:16, "Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" (ESV).

Stewardship Report

As of August 25, 2025:

TOTAL BUDGETED TO DATE \$275,144.61
TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE \$223,988.52
BUDGETED WEEKLY NEED \$7,054.99
WEEKLY YTD AVERAGE \$5743.30

Upcoming Meetings

CE Board - Sunday, Oct. 5 after worship Trustee Board - Tuesday, Oct. 7 @ 6:30 pm Diaconate Board - Tuesday, Oct. 14 @ 7 pm Advisory Board - Sunday, Oct. 12 after worship Quarterly Business Meeting- Sunday, Oct.19



JOIN US OCT. 11 1-5 PM



PICK A PECK OF PURPOSEFUL APPLES

Who knew that North Dakota produced such good apples?! Well, of course, you did — but I'm still becoming familiar with this territory. Hence, I was pleasantly surprised when a small, somewhat nondescript tree in my backyard began to develop green orbs this summer that have darkened to a deep rich red color. These backyard apples have sweetened in taste with each crisp September night — and they now possess the great potential to make a fine All-American apple pie.

So why should "apples" be of any concern to us? Consider the words of Jesus Christ as he stood among a rich harvest of people, their gazes fixed on him, as he said: "A good tree produces good fruit ... and as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions" (Mt. 7:17a, 20, NLT).

The simplicity of his statement reminds us that we don't pick apples from a grapevine or — as Jesus said — "figs from thistles." In order to enjoy a "peck" of fresh, delicious apples, we need to "pick" from the very best trees. This is why some people drive dozens of miles away to an orchard to pay a premium price for the most gallant of gala apples. (After all, what better place is there to wear that new buffalo plaid shirt — and Mossy Oak hat — than an orchard on a sunny autumn day?! ... Not that I have any experience in that department — ahem!).

What's "Good Fruit"

Good fruit does not develop from a dead tree. For example, on an older apple tree — also in my yard — there's a withered and barren branch that reaches out like old dry bones towards the sky. If I'm not careful, I often brush my forehead against the lower tips of that branch, and it scratches me. In a flash, I'm reminded of its presence — a useless annoyance, but a "presence" nonetheless.



Adjacent to that dead branch is one that's filled with leaves. It's like a green banner that waves and dances in the wind. On it, there are dozens of large reddish dots growing in clusters big enough to bend the branch downwards. Although both branches share the same trunk and root system, only one produces "good fruit."

And here is where we find an analogy to the church. In the distant past, the tree bloomed and blossomed. It was young, and it had the right mix of nutrients, resources, daylight, and moisture to grow into a rather productive — and delightful – tree. But the seasons come and go and the storms ebb and flow ... and much like it. we – as the church – need to tend to the branches. There's a symbolism in such Green Thumb theology to which even Jesus alluded (Luke 12:48) that commands us to "nurture" what God has entrusted to us. Essentially, as Christian caretakers, we need to prune what has "passed" and to nurture what is "alive" — and ready to "thrive" — IF we truly want to be a good tree that bears "much good fruit."

Continued ...



PICK A PECK OF PURPOSEFUL APPLES

What's a Good Tree?

I think any respectable arborist would agree that a "good tree" is one that's well-suited to its environment. It has a strong trunk and branches, and it has good roots. Likewise, a church that is deeply rooted in Jesus Christ (biblically sound, dedicated, and motivated) will have strong branches with "good fruit" that shares the "sweetness" of the Lord. In more practical terms, we need to do the following:

- We need to pray for those around us. We need to pray for our pastors, for our volunteers, for our fellow Christians, and for our neighbors. We need to pray with a resounding conviction that "it will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
- Like Jesus said, **we need to have "good" actions**. Do we REALLY believe that Jesus IS the Son of God and that He changes our lives? Do we REALLY believe that Jesus IS the TRUTH and the WAY and that nothing apart from Him can ever bring any lasting fulfillment?
- As parents or grandparents, do we encourage our children and grandchildren to **see the value of church** (both in regular attendance and participation)?
- Do we show through our own lives that there is **NOTHING more important in this world than a relationship with Jesus Christ**. (If that sounds "too preachy," I would ask: Is there a single thing in this world that we have WITHOUT it being a gift from God? If not, then He deserves our attention).
- Do we **sacrifice our time or talents** to help try something new if it means to share "good fruit"?
- Will **we welcome new people into the church** with open arms? We have been blessed with a youth pastor, Brittany, and her husband, Brian, and their loving family. They have a heart for serving God and for helping youth and children. Will we join together to reach the hurting and lost people of our community?
- Will we always remember that we're **the apple of God's eye**? God jealously loves His people. Although His very existence doesn't require our love or adoration, he desires to have a relationship with us or in other words, we are blessed to know and to talk and to walk with our Creator.

Of course, this list could continue indefinitely.

Perhaps God offered a deliberate illustration in a rather humble apple tree that bore much good fruit this year. The symbolism of a "good tree" is that it provides good apples.

And after enough time, the tree itself provides shade and rest for everyone ... and with the right recipe, a slice of homemade apple pie with scoop of vanilla ice cream on top.

Never forget that there's a sweet reward in bearing good fruit!

Blessings,

26 9:00 am Coffee 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	1 9 9:00 am Coffee 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 1BCY Meal Fundraiser Quarterly Business Meeting	2 9:00 am Coffee 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Advisory Board Meeting 4 pm Senior Sts. to Brass Band	5 9:00 am Coffee 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship CE Meeting		NNS
27	20	13	6		MON
28	2 1 Evening Women's Fellowship leave Church @ 6:15 for Holly's	14 7pm Diaconate Meeting	7 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting		TUE
2 9 11:30 SK 4 pm IBCY Meal Prep 5:45 Family Supper 6:15 K-5th & Middle School Start 6:30 HS & Adult	2 2 11:30 SK 5:45 Family Supper 6:15 K-5 th & Middle School Start 6:30 HS & Adult	15 II:30 SK 4:00 Open Youth Room	8:45 Family Supper 6:15 K-5th & Middle School Start 6:30 HS & Adult Start 6:30 HS & Pumpkins! Open IBCY room starting @ 1:40	II:30 SK 5:45 Family Supper 6:15 K-5 th & Middle School Start 6:30 HS & Adult	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
30 9am Brunch Bunch Parker	23 Newsletter Deadline 9am Brunch Bunch Homesteaders	1 6 9am Brunch Bunch Parker	9 9am Brunch Bunch Homesteaders	Brunch Bunch Parker	OH1
3 l 10:00 BS	2 4 10:00 BS 12:30 pm Senior Saints Funday & Lunch	17 10:00 BS	1 O Senior Sts. to		FRI
	25 Parent Day Out II-5 pm (IBCY)	-8	Senior Sts. to ↓ 1 1 Woodland Trail Pumpkin Walk FALL FESTIVAL! 1-5 PM 10:00 BS (set up 11am)	4 10-2 pm Craft Day & Potluck	SAT



October Birthday's

2nd Brian Lohan
 3rd Dennis Roberts
 4th Vicki Miller

Sheldon Summers

5th Ken Schneider10th Janice Cooper

11th Peter Schneider

17th Steve Anderson
20st Leah Umbleby

21nd Racia Toben

22nd Karen Anderson **30**th Blake Anderson

31^{st.} Coleen Jones

Rex Sisco



October 12th

Terry & Ruth Anderson

October 15th

Tim & Vicki Miller

October 17th

Brian & Megan Miller

October 25th

Clayton & Holly Fegley



11/2 - Daylight Savings Ends 11/15 - Twice Blessed Starts 11/26 - Thanksgiving Service TBA Senior Saints Banquet

October Serving Committee

Kay Eaton, Jacki Johnson, Samantha Johnson, Joyce Rostad

The Immanuel Echo

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