

## *Immanuel... God with us!*

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." - Isaiah 7:14*

**Immanuel... God with us!** Ponder that statement. The omnipresence of God! Join me this Advent season rejoicing that God is with each and everyone of us in the Church of the Lutheran Brethren around the world...

- Immanuel is with Ben & Sarah Hosch and their children as their mission to the Hakka of Taiwan begins;
- Immanuel is with Jason & Savanah Rogness as the Lord begins planting New Hope LBC in Parker, CO;
- Immanuel is with Kay Asche in Chad, Africa who is close to being placed in a village to proclaim Christ;
- Immanuel is with our seminarians of the Pacific Region... Ben Breslin (Rancho Cucamonga, CA), Isaiah Bai (Fergus Falls via Eugene, OR), Chris Nab (Fergus Falls via Buda, TX), and Marcus Goodman (Olympia, WA).
- Immanuel is with Erick & Missy Sorensen and their boys in Manhattan, NY as the ministry of Epiphany continues to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ;
- Immanuel is with our pastors and elders as they preach and teach about the gift of Christ to the world;
- Immanuel is with each of you who grieves the loss of a loved one this season;
- Immanuel is with each one of our churches... no matter how big or small... with words of life for you;

Our CLB family is joined together in our shared prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Would you take a few moments now to pray for each of these people? May the Lord fill our hearts with even greater hope and joy as we prayerfully contemplate His loving faithfulness and presence in each of our lives.

Pray also for the continued ministry of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren. December is the single most important month of giving toward fulfilling our ministry plan. Our December goal is \$665,000. As we pray for our CLB ministry partners around the world, would you also prayerfully consider a sacrificial, year-end gift to help meet our financial commitments in these ministry endeavors on behalf of our Lord & Savior?

***A blessed Advent season and Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!***

## *Pacific Regional Online Giving*



Online giving is now available on the Pacific Regional website. Your gifts to the Pacific Region make possible seminary scholarships, discipleship equipping events, and revitalization support to our sister congregations in Eugene and Salem, Oregon. We also plan to open the online giving portal to receive registration fees for our upcoming L.E.A.D. Retreat in Cannon Beach (March 1-3, 2019). To use online giving simply go to our regional website... [www.lbpacific.org](http://www.lbpacific.org) and click on **GIVE** in the menu selections.

## *Praises and Prayers from around the Pacific Region...*

- Praise the Lord for wonderful **PNW retreats for both the women and the men** this fall!
- Pray for **Church in the Desert (Gold Canyon, AZ)** as Pastor Forrest and Joel Erickson shepherd this seasonal church attended by over 100 'snow-birds'.
- Pray for **Immanuel Lutheran (Eugene, OR)** as the church prayerfully makes critical decisions at a congregational meeting this month that will impact long-term ministry strategy.
- Pray for **Cornerstone Community Church (Ferndale, WA)** as they search for their next pastor.

Shared with a grateful heart,

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Phil Heiser  
Pacific Regional Pastor