



What a blessing it was Sunday evening to lead the choir in the musical "On This Very Night"! We have a very talented group of singers and musicians that I have the privilege of working with each week. You all did a fantastic job!

Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, January 2 at 7:45pm – we have a place for you!

December 24 at 5pm  
Christmas Eve Service  
Carols, Candlelight, and Communion

December 30 at 11am  
Darrell and Dawn Ritchie  
Love Offering will be received

The weekend of January 19-20 we will be hosting RamCorps, a percussion/brass ensemble, from the University of Mobile. They will be partnering with us to do outreach on Saturday, and then on Sunday they will be a part of our 11am worship service and lead the entire 5pm service. We are going to need host homes for 3 nights for these college students. Please do what you can to help meet this need.

PraiSing Him,  
Mark

**December 30 at 11am**



## From the Pastor

Dear IBC Family,

'Twas the fight before Christmas when all through the house  
Not a good deed was stirring, and Dad was a louse!  
Their mother was angry and loaded with care,  
'Cause the gift list was longer than ever this year!  
The children were nagging for gifts worth a ton,  
And Dad was convinced, "Christmas just isn't fun!"  
With Mom's loud complaining, and Dad mad at all,  
They loaded the car for the trip to the mall!  
They stopped first at Sears to buy Grandma a platter,  
At Wards Sis tried on jeans that confirmed she was fatter!  
They stopped at the ATM for some more cash,  
And saw their new neighbors with THEIR Christmas stash!  
Hearts sank as they saw what their neighbors could spend,  
"We've got to buy more!" Everybody chimed in!  
When, what to their shopping red eyes should appear,  
But a sign with the answer to their Christmas fear.  
"Use credit, use VISA, use MasterCard,  
Just run up their limits, it's not very hard!"  
More rapid than eagles, the charges, they came  
And whistled and shouted and called them by name.  
Now Kohl's, Now Wal-Mart, Now Sam's Club & Kinneys,  
To Ulta, to Target, we'll finish at Penney's!  
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall,  
Their packages piled up; they'd OUT-BOUGHT THEM ALL!!  
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle mount to the sky,  
So flew away hope of a Christmas of joys,  
Not a problem was changed by the gifts and the toys.  
And then, in a twinkling, Dad knew without doubt,  
They needed to know, "What is Christmas about?"  
That night in a dream he saw Bethlehem town,  
And a babe in a manger with thorns for a crown!  
And then what Dad saw brought the tears like a flood,  
Christ's back was all tarnished where lashes brought blood.  
A rugged old cross was his tortuous rack,  
As he shifted it's weight to his now bleeding back.  
His eyes, filled with burdens, 'twas nothing there merry,  
The thorns had no roses, the night became eerie.  
His dry thirsty mouth was drawn thin like a bow,  
And the beard of his chin was plucked out cruelly, and slow.  
The cross from his back held him high in his shame,  
And the soldiers encircled his death with a game.

Continued next column

He had a kind face, in his eyes none saw hate,  
And he shook when they laughed at his horrible fate.  
He was dying for me, took my sins on himself,  
And I wept when I saw him, in spite of myself.  
A look in his eye, and the twist of his head,  
Soon gave me to know, I had nothing to dread.  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work;  
And he took all my sin and then turned with a jerk.  
"It is finished," he said. Death he willingly chose,  
Then GLORY TO GOD, from the grave he arose!!  
Dad sprang from his bed, shouting what Christmas gives.  
"It's not all the gifts, but that Jesus now LIVES!"  
So you'll hear them exclaim, on their next Christmas night,  
Happy Christmas to all, WHO WILL KEEP CHRISTMAS RIGHT!

Pastor Lane

### THE RECORD SPEAKS December 16, 2018

Sunday school Enrollment	257
Attendance	140

<b>November Giving and Expenses</b>	
Budget Giving	29,018
Budget Expenses	39,129
Restricted Giving	1,809
Restricted Expenses	1,871

### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

#### Special Request for December: Batteries of all sizes

As the holidays approach there is a greater need of all food items for the food pantry.

*Please make sure all food items have not expired.  
We cannot distribute food that has expired.*



We have some new books in our library and 1 DVD has been added. The new books are The House at Saltwater Point, by Colleen Cobble, and The Road Home by Beverly Lewis. The new DVD is I Can Only Imagine. Come and check out these exciting new additions to our library.



Wednesday, December 19th  
Family Life Center (Gym).

5:30 pm Bring your own Supper  
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting Begins

**Email Address:**

IBC's email address has changed to [Immanuelbcsav@gmail.com](mailto:Immanuelbcsav@gmail.com)  
Please make sure you have us in your address book/contacts so our emails to you are not going into your spam file.

**2019 Offering Envelopes**

Your offering envelopes can be picked up in the Gaddy Bldg. on Sunday morning (outside the Library) or from the FLC this Wednesday evening. If you do not have an envelope # assigned and would like to have envelopes for your Tithes /Offerings, please contact the church office.

Carols,  
Candlelight  
&  
Communion



**Newsletter changes to make note of:**

The Immanuelite will be published again on January 14, 2019. We will send more emails through Constant Contact and make sure that our website information is updated and sent out regularly through other means to keep you informed of upcoming ministries and activities.

**INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS**

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering during the month of December...**

Pray for and give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

**Goal: \$10,000.00**

**Received to Date: \$4,909.43**

**LOTTIE MOON POST OFFICE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

Mail your cards to your friends who attend Immanuel. Please do not mail to shut-ins or those who will not be here to check their "mail." Cost of mailing is 10 cents per card and goes to The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions.

December 17, 2018 Vol. 114 No. 51

**CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES**  
Sunday, December 23, 2018

<b>Nursery</b> Andrea Byington, John & Laura Carr, Jonathan Bethune & Kristen Bethune	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Nursery</b> No Evening Worship	<b>Evening Worship</b>
<b>Children's Church</b> Nancy Chapman	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Security Monitors</b> Bob Crump, Malcolm Mitchell, Nick Crump	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Security Monitors</b> No Evening Worship	<b>Evening Worship</b>
<b>Sunday School (Classes available for all)</b>	<b>9:45am</b>
<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
<b>No Evening Worship</b>	

**Monday, December 24th**  
Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm  
Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, December 25th**  
Merry Christmas!  
Church Office Closed

**Wednesday, December 26th**  
No Wednesday Evening Activities

**Thursday, December 27th**  
Men's Bible Study 9:30am  
Open Gym 6:30pm



**Birthday Party for Jesus**  
Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> During Children's Church

**Children up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!**

Senior Pastor  
Minister of Music  
Interim Youth Minister  
Organist  
Pianist

Dr. Lane Sanders  
Rev. Mark Layton  
Royce King  
Dorothea King  
Brett Waters

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