Immanuel BAPTIST CHURCH Frankfort, KY

CONNECTIONS

To Experience & Express God's Unconditional Love

Volume 5, No. 5 - November 2026

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Our Vision
To experience and express God's unconditional love.

Our Kingdom Mission
To live like Jesus Christ by unconditionally loving all people, compassionately serving God's world, openly discussing issues of faith, and intentionally inviting others to grow with us as followers of Christ, our Lord and Savior.

"Thankful for Miracles"

On Sunday, September 27, I woke up to a message that my dad was in the hospital with a suspected gall bladder attack. By late Tuesday morning, I was rushing out of the office without any clue when I would be back. That night, we truly thought we were saying goodbye. We called my sister and my dad's siblings, who all rushed to town to find my dad sedated and intubated with a pretty bleak prognosis. Every time I asked someone for prayers, I said, "we need a miracle."

The saga took many twists and turns that are too numerous and unwieldy to detail on this page. At one point while he was in the ICU, we were told that he was in the room where they put the most severe cases.

Somehow, some way, however, everyday brought a little bit more progress. From dad wiggling his toes that he couldn't move the day before to being able to come off the ventilator within less than 48 hours, we experienced lots of what I can only describe as tiny miracles.

On Monday, October 12, Dad was finally able to move from the hospital to rehab. Defying all odds, he then came home from rehab on Friday, October 23. As I was updating friends and family, I said, "I think we got our miracle."

After everything my dad went through between September-October, there's no reason he should still be with us today, and yet, I've gotten to see Eliza climb into his lap multiple times. We've talked about sermons and politics. We even celebrated Scott's birthday together.



Not only that, but he continues to shock every doctor with the progress he is making now that he is home. (And he's shocked me by actually *taking it slow* this time and not trying to go immediately back to work. Perhaps that is another miracle.) His kidneys had "gone to sleep" during this ordeal and now they appear to be working again. At one point, there was potential that he had enough blood loss to some toes that he might go home with his life, but have to lose some toes. That's no longer a concern.

As I prepare for Thanksgiving, I can't help but give thanks for miracles. For the miracle of my dad. For the miracles we experience as a country every time we say, "there's a better way." For the miracle that God led me here and that, through it all, we have grown stronger together.

I know I haven't been able to give 100% to you all over the last month or so. For your prayers and support, I give thanks. For your grace, I give thanks. For your perserverance, I give thanks. God is so good.

I hope you know that this congregation is special. That the work we do together is miraculous in so many ways. Like this situation with my dad, I am just so grateful that I get to bear witness to the wonder of wonders that is Immanuel Baptist Church. Thank you.

Pastor Emily

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Zambia – Field of Hope Update



"The most valuable investment we can make is in our children's education. When we make education a priority, we give our children opportunity." - Martin O'Malley

At Partners In Development, we believe deeply in the power of education, just as Mama Turner and Lonnie did. Our children are the leaders of tomorrow, but without the right support and opportunities, their hopes and dreams can so easily fade away.

On the right is a photo of one of our students from the Field of Hope - one of many young minds filled with big dreams and the promise of a brighter future.

Meet Lonnie! Yes, he is named after our very own Lonnie Turner. He is the son of one of our team members in Zambia.

In October, little Lonnie graduated from primary school and is now eagerly looking forward to starting Grade 8 in the new year.

Your support has played an important role in Lonnie's educational journey and in the lives of so many other children like him.



Thanks to your support and generosity, we are able to help these young leaders grow, learn, dream, and access opportunities that open doors to a brighter future.

Thank you for always believing in our mission, for standing with us, and helping us change lives, one child at a time.

In gratitude and hope for your support,
Stephen Turner

We currently have 70 young learners in pre-school and grade 1 who need our support :

- 18 children in early childhood
- 22 in reception
- 30 in grade 1

For these children, something as simple as a school uniform, a pair of shoes or a set of books can make a difference between simply dreaming about an education and having the opportunity to pursue one.

With your support, we can give these children an opportunity, a future, and the chance to become the change they dream of being.

You can support Partners in Development by sending a check to the Church Office or placing it in the offering plate with a note in the memo line for "Partners in Development." Or you can give online at www.ibcfrankfort.com/give and select "Partners in Development" in the drop-down menu.

You can also give directly to Greg Toulson (Partners in Development's Treasurer) using venmo. The profile name is @Partners-InDevelopment, and they ask that you put your email address in the comment field. Or mail a check to:

Partners in Development
Attn: Greg Toulson
252 N. First Street
Hampton, VA 23664

Infant Resource Center Update

Infant Resource Center
Immanuel Baptist Church
Frankfort, KY

We have great news to share. Immanuel has received official 501(c)(3) designation (above and beyond our status as a church) from the IRS. This means we can apply for grant funding and financial support for both IRC and the church more broadly. We were already performing all the required activities and maintaining the standards necessary for this status, but completing the paperwork and being notified of the status award is worthy of celebration. I am excited to see the impact this has on our church and the wider Frankfort community.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Crittenden family for including the IRC as a donation option in Roger's obituary. It is no surprise that we have received incredible support from those who loved him in the past weeks. Judge Crittenden was always a part of my life as a member of IBC, but professionally, I watched him chair the External Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel once a month for many years. These meetings were difficult, but the Judge's leadership made them easier. He led the group, ensuring lessons learned from these horrific cases were carried forward to keep other children safe. We were all lucky to know him and I credit my passion for supporting children and families to his lifelong championing for Kentucky's kids.

Thank you!
Sara

IRC Wishlist

To order from the Infant Resource Center Wishlist, use the qr code above or use this link:
https://tinyurl.com/irc-wishlist

Baptist Mission Women

In October, the Lydia Greear Baptist Mission Women had a hot dog roast at Jan Peterson's house. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and laughter. Thanks to Jan for hosting! Save the date for the Baptist Mission Women annual Christmas Dinner on December 7 at Jennifer True's house for appetizers and dinners, and Karen Dungan's house for desserts and ornament exchange!







MISSIONS

Thank You from Food Pantry

Friends,

What an amazing weekend for the Food Pantry! We started off on Saturday with a team from Buck Run Baptist Church who helped clean and organize the pantry. Everything looks so wonderful! Then Sunday was the Interfaith Food Drive.

We are so grateful to all of you who participated! We had a wonderful crew of volunteers and were so thrilled to unload so many cars and trucks. The shelves are full and we have additional funds to purchase items as we need them. It was a joy and also very humbling to see you all and to unload so much food. This will mean so much to the families needing help. And it means a lot to us also. Thank you!

EMERGENCY COMMUNITY
FOOD PANTRY
of Franklin County

Caught You Having a Good Time at Immanuelfest









Report on Support to Vulnerable in Camerooon

Beloved in the Lord,

We continue to express our gratitude to you for your heart of compassion to our community.

The beneficiary for this month was a visually impaired university student. A unique computer training program showed up and he was sponsored with your support.

He was transported from his village, 256km away from the training center and lodged in town for the program.

After the training, he was selected to go for another training workshop in Zimbabwe.

Thank you for showing him the world even with his white cane when he least expected.

Warmest regards,
Eny Bunyui
Cameroon.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Capital City Pride

IBC was well-represented at Capital City Pride. Despite some wind and rain, the joy was tangible and the smiles speak for the themselves!















Pastor Emily Speaks at Kentucky Council of Churches

On Thursday, October 22, Pastor Emily provided the keynote address at the Kentucky Council of Churches annual gathering at Somerset's Historic First United Methodist Church. The theme of the event was Faith Blueprint: Revisiting the Power Source Displayed in the Early Church, and Pastor Emily spoke on Faith and Fellowship. Her address kicked off the event, providing inspiration from the work we have been doing at IBC to stay motivated and present even in difficult times.

The Kentucky Council of Churches is an ecumenical organization in the Commonwealth of Kentucky that unites Christian traditions to promote social justice, Christian unity, and common service. IBC has supported the Kentucky Council of Churches financially through our missions giving for many years.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service







The annual Thanksgiving Pancake Breakfast is coming up on Thursday, November 26, at 8:30 a.m. Invite your friends and family to join us.

We also need men to volunteer to help make and serve breakfast. If you are available to help, please contact Bruce Dungan or the church office!



PRAYER AND CARE

Deacon of the Week



Week of
November 8
Sherron Jackson
502-229-7018
sdcjjack@aol.com



Week of
November 15
Becke McGaughey
859-221-2678
becke.mcgaughey@gmail.com

Week of
November 22
Jennifer True
502-226-8123
gjtrue81@gmail.com



Week of
November 29
Cheryl Dooley
502-226-0972
cadooley53@yahoo.com





Week of
December 6
Wyvette Williams
502-330-1326
williamswyvette@gmail.com

The Deacon of the Week is here to support you with any ministry needs or to respond to any prayer concerns.

Please feel free to reach out to them any time during the week of their service!

Prayer List

Sandy Altom
Bruce Allgood
Norma Barnes
Patty Crittenden
Gerri Calvert
Homer Calvert
Jackie Hatcher
Glenn Ison
Scarlett Moore
Mason Smith
Chuck Wolfe
Susan Wolfe

For a completely updated prayer list with addresses, please visit
www.ibcfrankfort.com/prayer

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Deacon Flocks: Reimagining Care

The Deacons are in frequent discussions about ways to be more impactful as we carry out our primary mission of service. With this in mind, we have launched a "new" approach to serving our congregation in the coming months. "New" is a bit of a misnomer since this approach has been used in the remote past; perhaps, "revitalized" is a more descriptive term.

Deacons have been randomly assigned to families/individuals/couples who will make up their "Flock" of about 6-7 family units per Deacon. If you haven't received contact from your flock Deacon yet, you should be hearing from them soon!

Although Flock (think traffic cameras) has gotten a bad rap lately in some communities, we intend its use only in the Biblical sense. That is, to shepherd - to care for and tend to the needs of our spiritual community with humility and God's unconditional love and acceptance. Deacons will not bombard members of their flocks, but will make sure each person and family who represents Immanuel Baptist Church has someone reaching out to them regularly to let them know they are loved.

The flock Deacons will also be able to help us communicate urgent and important information within the community, as they will responsible for keeping their small flock up-to-date as much as possible. Our hope is to ensure that no ones "falls through the cracks" and that our entire family of faith knows that they have at least one person who is praying for them and available to them should a need arise - big or small.

This process is evolving and we will have more specifics for you soon. If you have questions now, please direct those to Jane Brake as Deacon Chair or to Pastor Emily.

Welcome New Deacons



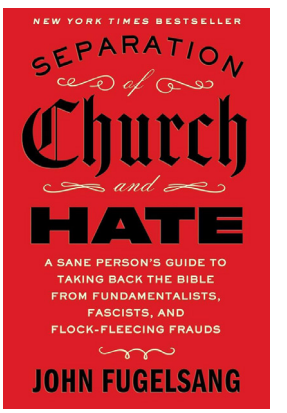
On Sunday, September 27, IBC ordained four new Deacons to serve in our Deacon body: Cheryl Dooley, Shelley Lewis, Becke McGaughey, and Valerie Sommerfield. These women represent some of our newest and longest-term members, and all bring a love for this church and the surrounding community to their service.

The Installation service was a joyful celebration. Some of our founding "cradle roll" members declared, "we believe this was the loudest laying on of hands we've ever had!" If the service was any indication, the Spirit is on the move through these women, providing the church with new energy. We are so excited to see their servant leadership unfold.

Koinonia Class Update

The Koinonia Class, led by Zeb Martin, meets in Room 134 at the end of the hallway behind the sanctuary. An online option is also offered via Zoom. This "less traditional" Sunday School class uses written, audio, and visual resources to discuss various topics. The focus is on "functional Christianity," exploring not just the reasons behind it, but also how we can "express God's unconditional love" in the world today. Participants range from teenagers to those in their 80s.

The class is currently reading and engaging in insightful and wide-ranging conversations about the book, "Separation of Church and Hate: A Sane Person's Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists, and Flock-Fleecing Frauds" by John Fugelsang.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Finances Through October

2026 Ministry Plan	$520,473.00
Amount Needed Each Week	$10,009.00
Amount Needed Through October	$430,387.00
Undesignated Receipts Through October	$375,587.34
% of Annual Budget Needed	83%
% of Annual Budget Received	72%
CURRENT ASSETS	
Church Checking Balance	$110,075.92
Designated Checking Balance	$100,570.76
Total Current Assets	$210,646.68

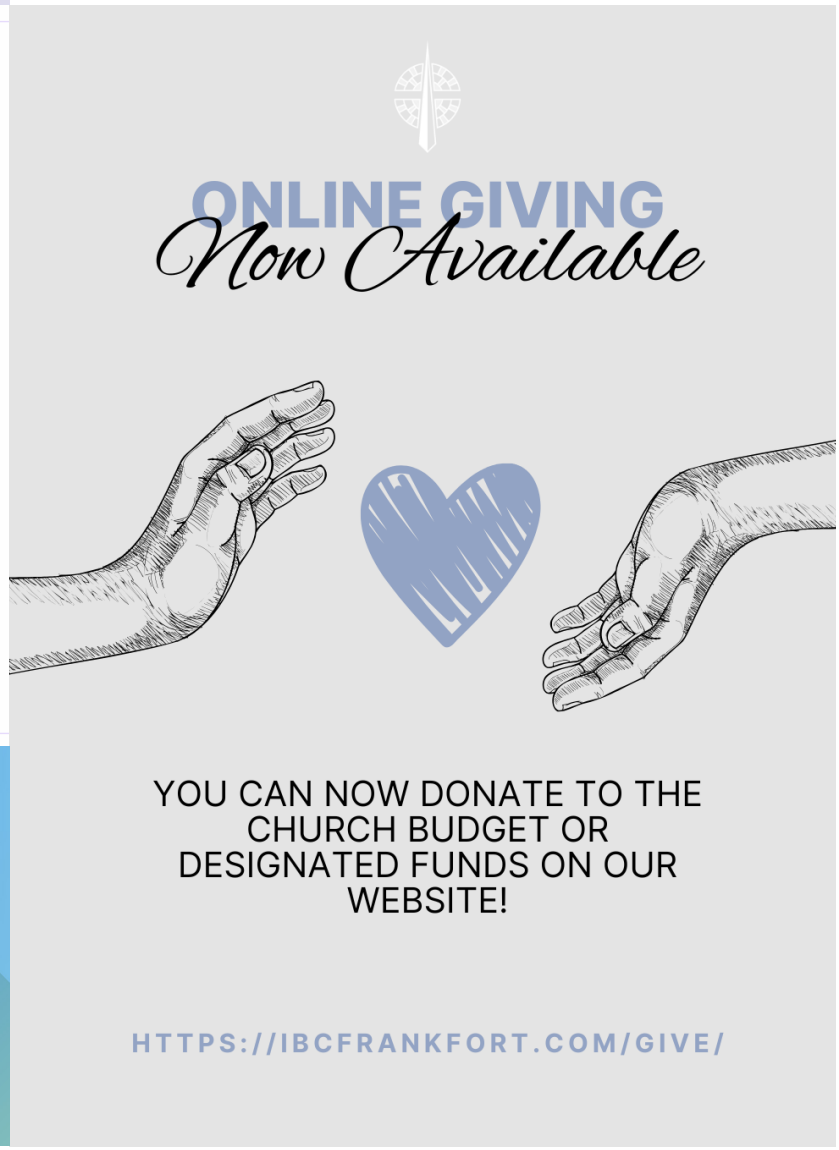
Your financial support is so important to our church. This year's budget was intentionally aspirational. We need your help to insure we can keep dreaming big. Please consider how you can support the church so we can end the year strong like we did in 2025!

Your gifts allow us to continue experiencing and expressing God's unconditional love in new and deeper ways. We are so grateful for your generosity - now and always!

In the coming days, you will receive the proposed budget in the mail. Please review these recommendations from the Stewardship Committee and join us for the Business Meeting on Sunday, November 22, following worship.

Reach out to the Church Office or a member of the Stewardship Committee with any questions!











Christmas Cantata

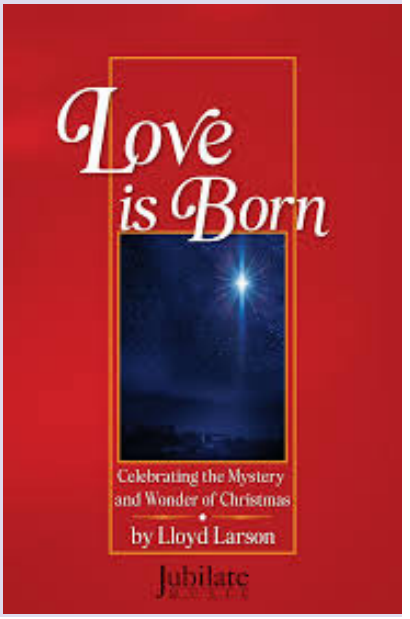
Christmas Cantata rehearsals have begun!

If you or someone you know would like to sing with us for this year's cantata, please let Mac know! He would love to offer you or them the "opportunity" to sing with us. We have already had a few new faces join and would love to see a few more!

We will be singing, "Love is Born: Celebrating the Mystery and Wonder of Christmas," by Lloyd Larson. It is nicely matched with the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, as well as a piece on Christ's light, which lends itself to the lighting of the Christ candle.

We will sing one section of the Cantata each Sunday during Advent.

Come join us to sing or for worship as we prepare for the birth of Christ!



Immanuel
BAPTIST CHURCH
Frankfort, KY
1075 Collins Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 223-7601
www.ibcfrankfort.com

Opportunities at Immanuel

Sunday, November 8
9:30 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Stewardship Team Meeting

Monday, November 9
6:00 pm Deacon's Meeting

Tuesday, November 10
6:00 pm PAL Meeting

Wednesday, November 11
Veteran's Day - Church Office Closed
6:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, November 12
1:00 pm Line Dancing

Friday, November 13
3:00 pm Crafting

Saturday, November 14
9:00 am Crafting

Sunday, November 15
9:15 am The Gathering
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Missions Team Meeting

Tuesday, November 17
6:00 pm PAL Meeting

Wednesday, November 18
6:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, November 19
1:00 pm Line Dancing

Sunday, November 22
9:30 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Business Meeting
12:45 pm Church Promotions Team Meeting
5:30 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Bridgeport Christian Church

Monday, November 23
3:30 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 24
6:00 pm PAL Meeting

Wednesday, November 25
6:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, November 26
8:30 am Thanksgiving Breakfast

Friday, November 27
9:00 am Advent/Christmas Decorating

Sunday, November 29
9:30 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship: Hanging of the Green