



# *Immanuel Messenger*

*“God With Us”*

July 2022 – Volume 22 Issue 2

## *“We’re Not Alone”*

*By Pastor Patrick Curley*

You may have noticed our newsletter’s theme: “God With Us”. This comes from the meaning of our congregational moniker, Immanuel, from which our newsletter takes its name. *God with us* is the essence of the Christian hope that we preach at Immanuel. It is the heart and soul of the Gospel. As God was made man in Christ, suffered on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead, He is with us as sin and death no longer separate us from Him. Our being with God will be forever in Christ.

Yes, God is with us. But Immanuel brings us into even further unity. God not only makes us one with Him but also makes us one with fellow believers. This is the fellowship we confess in the Apostles’ Creed as the “communion of saints”. Through a mutual faith in the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are brought together as the one, holy, Christian and apostolic Church. In fact, we chiefly experience our unity with God as we do so together. It is when even two or three gather in God’s name. This is the act of Christian worship. We uniquely experience it as Christ’s Church when at the altar, God’s table, we sacramentally eat with Him and one another. Meals are best experienced with family and friends.

Unity serves a further purpose. Christ has sent His Church out to the nations to share the Gospel. That’s a lot of ground to cover. We can do this mission better together than we can all by ourselves. Scripture repeatedly talks of being a Christian in the context of “togetherness”. Christ is the vine and we, the many branches, are grafted into Him bearing fruit. We are also together as the Body of Christ; He the Head and we the many varying parts serving according to our purpose. We are a holy nation, the new Israel, the people of God, to declare His marvelous deeds. Two things become clear in these images of the Church: 1) many parts are unified into one whole; 2) which is more effective when the many are working together for a common purpose.

Our nation has a theme, too. *E Pluribus Unum*. It is Latin for “one from many”. It was coined by Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams for the first Great Seal of the United States in 1776 with the hopes of unifying many colonies, later states, into one nation. But it, too, speaks to a greater purpose of unity. We do better when we work together as a nation, when we seek the common good. We are in this together.

Unity says something about the nature of love that is present with us in Christ. Love is possible only as God is with us and it is best experienced together. When we help our neighbor, when we share in the responsibilities of our congregation, when we give rather than seek to receive—we are experiencing the love of God in Christ. And when we gather together in worship on the Lord’s Day, we are receiving it unto eternal life.

## Pastor Curley Turned 60

On Trinity Sunday, June 12, those in attendance were privileged to celebrate Pastor Curley's milestone "60<sup>th</sup>" birthday. Pictures taken by Tina McGrath. Thank you, Tina!



## Chairman's Message

Hi everyone! Our church is making great progress on our action items for our short-term goals. Hopefully our communication is improving and continues that trajectory! We are currently in various stage of improvements around the church grounds. You may have noticed a nice new coat of paint on our front doors!

We are going to be fixing the fellowship hall roof in the coming months and working on electrical improvements over there as well. I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer so far!

God's blessings, Jeff

## Bible Study Class

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 AM a study on 1 Corinthians 3 gleaning principles for a healthy and growing congregation.

Our church will be offering another "Wednesdays at 11:00" Bible Study opportunity in September. I feel that I have grown closer to my Savior through His Word and the supplementing explanations given by my Pastors. I have also been touched by hearing the questions and comments made by my fellow seekers. There is so much to try to understand that a lifetime is not enough time, that's how wonderful God's Word is to me.

Pastor keeps class to about one hour so you can plan your day. We have a refreshment bar so you don't even have to miss morning coffee, and you can sleep in. Please consider attending. Ask yourself... why not? Janise Davis

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman: Jeff Peters  
Vice Chairman: John Gilkinson  
Head Elder: Fred Coleman  
Secretary: Bobbie Soohoo  
Financial Director: Darlene Brown  
Planning/Publicity: Randy Fewins  
Properties: Pam Vermons  
Youth: Christine Cline  
Pastor: Patrick Curley



## *Baptized Into His Kingdom*

*July 19: Celeste Remington Neri*

*July 26: Cataleya Venegas Vogel  
Lilah Rose Eckhart*



## *Shut-Ins*

Pastor Curley visits those on this list, but let's all remember them in our prayers. Maybe give them a call or drop them a card to let them know they are not forgotten.

Pete Busso (Chino)  
Pat Cook (Chino)  
Richard and Sharon Fiel (Rancho Cucamonga)  
Nyla Gibson (Ontario)  
Gretchen Johnson (Butterfield Ranch)  
Bruce and Audrey Lensch (Rancho Cucamonga)  
Dick and Nancy Manning (Fountain Valley)  
Jane Pratt (Chino)  
Tim and Carolyn Rennegarbe (Rancho Cucamonga)  
Carol Gilkinson (San Dimas)



## *Mission Outreach Report*

**Orphan Grain Train** is a 501c3 Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us. More than 3,728 semi-trailer truckloads of food, clothing, medical supplies, and religious materials have been sent to 69 countries and several disaster areas in the U.S. since 1992. Earlier this year Immanuel participated in "Undie Sunday" gathering underwear and socks for adults and children. We donated over 100 items and Pastor Curley delivered them. The headquarters is in Norfolk, NE. Visit their website [www.ogt.org](http://www.ogt.org) and learn the awesome things they do around the world.

## Meet Your Board

### Jeff Peters - Chairman



I moved to the Chino area in 2016 after I had gone through a divorce from my wife at the time of nearly 10 years. We have 3 children together. My two oldest are my boys: Cameron and Jason; our youngest is our daughter, Grace. They primarily live with their mom. On some Sundays I'm absent in church because I'm spending time with them. It depends on the schedule I'm getting with them. During the pandemic I moved up to the Hesperia area where I bought a home. I've been a Paramedic for the last 20 years and have held various roles as an EMS Chief and flight paramedic. I own a healthcare training company down the street from church and instruct as an assistant professor of emergency medicine for the UCLA school of medicine. One of my lesser-known hobbies is- I love to play my saxophone and have been playing for almost 30 years. I'm so thankful for my church family and I am blessed to be at Immanuel.

### John Gilkinson – Vice Chairman

I am a divorced Father of one Son 35yrs old who lives in Grants Pass, Oregon.

I have lived in San Dimas for 36 yrs. My first Job was working at a Christian pre-school for 1.35/hr minimum wage.

Worked for RGIS Inventory Specialists 20 yrs

Self Employed - Educational Materials sales - mom got me started 12 yrs

Barnes and Noble 10 yrs

99 Cents only 5 yrs

Currently a Transportation coordinator

Hobbies Coin Collecting and sports collectibles and I am working on liquidating said collections.



### Fred Coleman – Head Elder



Moved to Chino in 1974 from San Diego. We transferred our membership from Christ the Cornerstone in San Diego to Immanuel in 1975. At that time Chino was a horse and dairy community and we had to travel five miles to get gasoline and supplies. I have been married for 55 years to my best friend and love. We have two children and five grandchildren. I retired in 2015 from Hyundai Motor America after 29 years.

I enjoy photography and collecting American Indian Art. Love to go on road trips to Central California, Arizona and New Mexico and an occasional longer trip. I had a boss tell me "You should be on vacation or at least planning one"

## *Bobbie Soohoo – Secretary*



Member Immanuel since 1998 - I was not a Lutheran prior to this but have been a Christian believer all my life. I was born and raised in the Bible Belt of Virginia and Tennessee. The Lord guided my husband and myself to Immanuel Lutheran Missouri Synod in Chino, Ca. I am very grateful to have become a Lutheran.

## *Darlene Brown – Treasurer*

We moved to Chino in 1973 and I transferred to Immanuel in 1980. I have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren and expecting a fourth one this month. I have been serving as Financial Director off and on since 2000 and am looking forward to retiring next year. My career was in banking, and I retired in 2005. In my free time I make quilts.

Financial report for May. Income was \$18,699.00 and expenses \$14,293.16



## *Pamela Vermons - Director of Properties*



My parents were founding members of Hope Lutheran in Glendora, 2020 started with our Pastor of 27+ years retiring in January, Covid shutdown in March, Rob falling breaking left wrist and hip in April, and a void in our religious life. My good friend Becky invited us to St John's as her Pastor was holding outside services. We had no idea of some issues there with a small group of unhappy people and happily followed pastor Curley to Chino. It was a tough decision to move my membership, but a good Pastor is worth much more than a nice structure.

My father was a contractor and built homes in Chino off of Benson. I wear two hats as a Property Manager and Travel Consultant. I own and manage commercial and residential properties that my father built in Glendora. I hope to use my experience and contacts to handle any repairs or improvements we need to our physical church property. Rob and I love to cruise and host 1 or 2 cruises a year as the CORKS & FORKS group.

Please contact me about any repairs or improvements you would like to see implemented.

## *Duties of Open Board Positions*

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** The Financial Secretary shall receive and record in books kept for such purpose, and deposit in the congregation's designated depository, all congregational moneys, including offerings, contributions, special collections, loans, subsidies, bequests, etc. A report of all receipts shall be submitted to the Finance Director each week, to the Board of Directors each month, and a written report to the Annual Congregational Meeting. He or she shall keep an accurate record of individual contributions and shall submit a quarterly statement of receipts to all members and shall annually issue a detailed report of their contributions to all members. Should members neglect their stewardship of money, according to his records, he or she shall report such action to the Chief Elder.

**STEWARDSHIP DIRECTOR:** The Stewardship Director shall be responsible for developing, implementing, and maintaining various programs stressing the importance of stewardship to the Congregation and utilize its resources and participation of their time, talents and other contributions and resources. The stewardship director will also encourage participation in outreach and other programs in conjunction with the Planning and Publicity Director and Evangelism Director. He or she shall make monthly reports to the Board of Directors on the status of the Congregation's stewardship program as well as progress toward meeting any established goals. Annually, at the Congregational meeting, he or she shall present a written report to the Congregation on the status of the Stewardship program.

**EVANGELISM AND SERVICE DIRECTOR:** The Evangelism and Service Director shall plan, promote, and carry out an evangelism program for the congregation. To this end he or she shall arrange for the maintenance of a "Prospect File", enlist aid in visiting prospective members, and assist the pastor in training evangelism callers. The Evangelism and Service Director will, in conjunction with the Stewardship and Planning Director, be responsible for outreach to community.

**EDUCATION DIRECTOR:** The Education Director shall foster spiritual growth in the life of every member. He or she shall plan, promote, and carry out programs in the areas of Bible study, family life, missions, etc. He or she shall supervise the entire Sunday School Program. He or she shall appoint the Superintendent, and other officers (such appointments shall be ratified by the Board of Directors). He or she shall obtain qualified teachers (also to be ratified by the Board of Directors). With the aid of the pastor and Sunday School officers, he or she shall develop a teacher-training and leadership education program adequate to the needs of the congregation. He or she shall bring to the attention of the Board of Directors the needs of facilities, equipment, and finances for all phases of the congregation's education program.

**SOCIAL WELFARE DIRECTOR AND ELDER:** The Social Welfare Director shall study the needs of individuals in the congregation. He shall further study the needs of the aged, of the sick, and of the poor. He shall bring these needs to the Board of Directors with recommendations for action. He shall report on the social needs of the community and solicit congregation cooperation with other agencies in the community endeavoring to meet these needs.

**SYNODICAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR AND ELDER:** The Synodical Relations Director and Elder shall serve as liaison between the congregation and the Circuit, the District, and the Synod. He shall seek to cultivate within the congregation a clear understanding of the relationship of the congregation and

our sister congregations of Synod. He shall be a congregational representative to the Circuit Council and shall do everything possible to keep the congregation informed of and involved in all pertinent matters regarding the Church-at-large. He shall serve as an Elder and member of the Board of Spiritual Life.

**If interested in serving the Church on the board, please contact the Board Chairman; Jeff Peters at 951-370-5609 or email at [admin@immanuelchino.org](mailto:admin@immanuelchino.org).**

### *Volunteers Needed*

Located in the narthex of the church is a sign-up sheet for Linger-Longer hosts and Sunday Lector's. Please consider signing up for one or both duties. Your service would be greatly appreciated.

### *Message From the Editor*

We will always be open to suggestions on how to enhance or improve the "Messenger." Please don't hesitate to contact me at [trebleplus@yahoo.com](mailto:trebleplus@yahoo.com). I work full-time so anything you can send to me during the month is helpful. I begin the next Messenger as soon as one is sent out. My goal is to send the Messenger to our secretary the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month. I appreciate the opportunity to communicate with all of you and report the news at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Thank You,  
Becky Cholcher, Editor

PS: It is a long-time tradition at Immanuel to sing Happy Birthday at the end of service for those celebrating this milestone. Janice Davis was kind enough to provide the words to the second verse since some of our newer members are unfamiliar with it. Now we don't have an excuse to just hum along we can actually sing it.

May Jesus bless you  
May Jesus bless you  
May He guide you and keep you  
May Jesus bless you

#### July Birthdays & Anniversaries

##### Happy Birthday to:



- 01 Bill Coleman
- 05 Isabella Khamiseh  
Brendan Schmidt
- 07 Monica Farrell
- 09 Adam Foelsch
- 16 Ilona Missakian
- 25 Robert Vermons
- 30 Winnie Foelsch

##### Happy Anniversary to:



- 02 Pastor & Lulu Curley
- 29 Eric & Katrina Foelsch
- 31 Kenny & Laurie Wirtjes