

# Immanuel Church

newsletter  
09 June

## from our pastor

by Ray Ortlund

### How will you make this a good summer?

I love summer, and I hope you do too. God made it: "You have made summer" (Psalm 74:17). In that context, summer is one of many indicators of God's involvement in this world, "working salvation" (Psalm 74:12). Think of that. The One we're depending on has on his résumé, "The invention of summer."

What are you going to do with this gift of God called summer 2009? That day in August when all the kids go back to school, what will you want to look back on in June and July?

Here's one good use of summer. Read a great book about the gospel. Two books worth considering are both by Tim Keller – *The Reason for God* and *The Prodigal God*. *The Reason for God* answers today's objections to Christianity, and *The Prodigal God* shows us the grace of God with unusual clarity. One reason we hesitate to talk with friends about Jesus is fear. We fear they'll ask a question we can't answer, and we fear we'll not make God's grace clear. These two books offer help right where we need it.

You can get both books at amazon.com for around thirty bucks. Audio is also available. If, like me, you are going through personal renewal in the gospel and you want to become more confident in speaking with others, here is some summer reading that might leave you thinking that first school day in August, "What a great summer. I am more ready for my fall than I've ever been before."



## THE POWER OF IMPUTATION

*"And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness."* Romans 4:5

When we hold out the empty hands of faith, God freely imputes to us Christ's righteousness, establishing us eternally under his smile. There is no penalty box for rule-breakers, for all are rule-breakers to whom God credits perfect play because of Christ.

Here is the only answer to our sense of judgment within. Only the voice of God can persuasively refute the accusations of conscience. That divine voice we now hear in the gospel and can announce to ourselves moment by moment, whenever the accusing voice within would rob us of our peace and joy in Christ.

After Jonathan Edwards' seraphic description of Christian humility in his "Thoughts on the Revival," my favorite passage in all of literature outside the Bible comes from Martin Luther's letter to his discouraged friend Jerome Weller in 1530:

"Whenever the devil pesters you with these thoughts, at once seek out the company of men, drink more, joke and jest, or engage in some other form of merriment. Sometimes it is necessary to drink a little more, play, jest, or even commit some sin in defiance and contempt of the devil in order not to give him an opportunity to make us scrupulous about trifles. . . .

When the devil throws our sins up to us and declares that we deserve death and hell, we ought to speak thus: 'I admit that I deserve death and hell. What of it? Does this mean that I shall be sentenced to eternal damnation? By no means. For I know One who suffered and made satisfaction in my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Where he is, there I shall be also.'"

With our appropriate emphasis today on accountability among us men, let's not forget to hold each other accountable to this, the highest exercise of the gospel in our lives: to be so happy in the righteousness of Jesus Christ that we defy the devil and all his destroying accusations and throw them back into his face to shame him even as we triumph by faith in Christ, to his honor and glory as the only Savior of sinners.

# meet a member



## Adrian Buntin...

Adrian will never forget the first words sweet Barbara Parrish said to her the first time she and Seth visited Immanuel.

"We would just love to have your baby!"

Adrian, pregnant at the time with Oliver, felt so welcomed that day that she kept coming back and became a member as soon as she had the chance.

Most of Adrian's growing years were spent in Paducah, KY. She was fortunate to grow up in a Christian home and became a Christian herself at the age of nine. Her walk with Christ began to grow deeper as a teenager thanks to the wonderful guidance of a youth pastor who first taught her the importance of daily Bible reading.

It was as a freshman at Murray State University that Adrian developed another relationship that would change her life. She began dating Seth in 2001 and after much persuasion and maybe a little bribery, Seth agreed to ask her to marry him. She said, "Yes." They've been married five years this June.

Last September 26, Adrian was blessed to become the mommy of Oliver. She loves, loves, loves him and is thankful to be able to stay home with him during the day.

Adrian truly loves admiring the beautiful world God created, from the stars in the sky to the little inchworms hanging from the trees. She enjoys staying active, reading good books, and writing whatever she feels like writing. Her dislikes are grape flavored candy, sports she isn't good at, and frizzy hair days.

## From our church treasurer

Our church expenses continue in the summer months, so if you'll be away, be sure and send your tithes and offerings to our mailing list. Thank you for your generous support for the important work of the Lord here at Immanuel.

## upcoming events

### June 2, 16, 30 | Women's study

We don't want to lose touch over the summer! Come join us for prayer, fellowship and a stimulating discussion of Noel Piper's book, *Faithful Women and Their Extraordinary God*. June 2, 30 at Linda Pedde's, June 16 at Jani Ortlund's. This is a perfect venue to invite a friend or someone new to Immanuel. Contact: Jani at 591-3378

### June 20 | Car show

We're opening up our parking lot to make new friends and to host our first car show, Saturday, June 20 from nine to noon. Invite someone you know who might enjoy seeing antique, classic, exotic and fast cars. If you'd like to enter your car (no Ford trucks allowed), bring a non-perishable food item, which will benefit those in need. Contact Bob Alley at 373-2051.

### June 23-26 | Fine Arts Camp

Immanuel Children's Ministry and Global Target Network/YWAM, in conjunction with Standing Room Only productions, Inc., are hosting our first Performing Arts Camp, 9:00AM -- 3:00 PM Do you know someone who wants to learn how to perform confidently in public? Contact Jacqueline at sronashville@yahoo.com.

### July 11 | Family pool party

The Andersons are hosting an all-church pool party, 3:30 pm to dark, with food, music, games and fun! Put it on your calendar now!

## ongoing...

**Sundays, 9:15 am** Conversations with a purpose - Gospel-Christianity: next steps for anyone - entering, exploring, spreading!

**10:30 am** - Worship in music and Word - newness of life through the book of Romans

**Wednesday - 6:30 am** - *Great Guys* - study the New Testament, Shoney's Brentwood. Contact: John Anderson 377-6122

**Small groups** - Call Sean Jackson at 599-5940

### Birthdays

- 9 Daniel Cortez
- 14 Sara Ayanama
- 14 Miro McPherson
- 14 Rachel Perry
- 20 Samuel Cortez
- 22 Shin Yamazaki
- 23 Rachel Copley
- 27 Joshua Cortez

### Anniversaries

- 6 James and Jane Talley
- 6 Jim and Barb Daugherty
- 6 Daniel and Jennifer Cortez
- 19 David and Linda Holst
- 26 Seth and Adrian Buntin
- 30 C.A. and Terri Stilwell

### Elders

- Tom Cox 221-8891
- Bob Pedde 377-9994
- C.A. Stilwell 794-7932

### Deacons

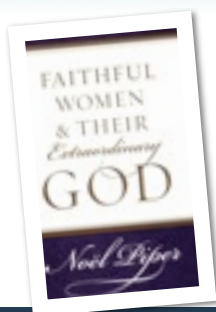
- David Holst 778-0974
- Jim Daugherty 662-2359
- Eddie Sisk 297-2218

### Pastor

- Ray Ortlund office 662-1125
- home 591-3378

JUNE 2, 16, 30

Faithful Women



JUNE 20

Car Show



JUNE 23-26

Performing Arts Camp



JULY 11

Pool party at Andersons'



# welcome to the neighborhood!



Ray and Jani Ortlund

We hope your new experiences in this area will surpass your desires.

I am writing to invite you to one of your neighborhood churches – Immanuel Church at the corner of Granny White Pike and Otter Creek Road, near the entrance to Radnor Lake. We worship the Lord together at 10:30 every Sunday morning. We also offer Sunday classes and seminars for all ages at 9:00. I am especially proud of Immanuel’s ministry to children.

Our website, still under construction, already contains much information of interest. The address is [www.ImmanuelNashville.com](http://www.ImmanuelNashville.com), and my personal blog is at [www.ChristIsDeeperStill.blogspot.com](http://www.ChristIsDeeperStill.blogspot.com).

If you are looking for a Christ-centered church where the Bible is taken seriously, where prayer is real, where you and your family can grow spiritually, where your life can count forever, that is Immanuel.

Again, welcome to the neighborhood. May God bless you today.

## Immanuel Church

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e-mail: [friends@ImmanuelNashville.com](mailto:friends@ImmanuelNashville.com)

9:15 am classes  
10:30 worship

stamp

to: