



THE IMMANUEL DOVE

Discovering and displaying Christ in here and out there

Immanuel Presbyterian Church (USA) Tucson, AZ Volume 32 Issue 01



Plant a Tree in 2020

*“But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.”*

Psalm 52:8

An olive tree takes about fifteen years to begin to bear fruit, but its average lifespan is 300-600 years, some trees living 1000+ years. Olive trees are green throughout the year. Time-tested olive trees are bent, gnarled, and hollow—yet they still produce fruit. The wood of an olive tree is resistant to decay. Olive trees nourish with their healing, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant properties. Olive wood provides renewable energy—producing 2.5 times the heat of burning regular wood and its smoke is harmless. Ash from olive wood is used for fertilizing gardens. The olive tree is used symbolically for peace and healing in Scripture, literature, and history. Planting an olive tree is an investment in the future—for centuries to come, blessing us and our progeny.

Martin Luther once said, “God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers, and clouds and stars.” We too believe there are great lessons to learn about faith, endurance, giving, and healing from the olive tree. I don’t know about you, but I want to be a living olive tree! Whether you’re a young sprout or a seasoned tree, God calls us to nourish others with our first fruits. We ask in this new year and new decade, that you Plant a Tree in 2020 and branch out even more in faith to reach all ages with the good news of Jesus Christ.

On **Commitment Sunday, January 26, 2020** at each service, we will not only dedicate our **Plant a Tree in 2020** pledges in the sanctuary, but we will consecrate Immanuel’s new olive tree outside the sanctuary. What a wonderful reminder our olive tree will be each time we set foot on the Immanuel campus of our commitment to enduring faith, and peace and healing in an age of division and woundedness. The psalmist reminds us of how we flourish in God’s love, “like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. (Psalm 1:3). May it be so!



JANUARY 2020



It was Thanksgiving, 1993. Tracy Autler was a single mom living in an apartment and was due to have her second child any day. She was living off of welfare and food stamps. While the smells of Thanksgiving wafted through her building, Tracy cobbled together various canned foods for the meal. And then the doorbell rang. Who would be visiting on Thanksgiving Day?



Standing before her was a delivery man holding a piping hot, full course Thanksgiving meal prepared from a restaurant. He told her it was from an anonymous donor and then proceeded to leave. Overwhelmed by the act of generosity and kindness, all Tracy could do was cry tears of joy all Thanksgiving Day. She called family and friends to find out who it was. Nobody knew.

Fast forward seven years later. Tracy eventually became a nurse, moved out of her apartment, and got married. A woman named Margot who had multiple sclerosis was admitted into Tracy's care at the hospital. She then remembered that Margot lived in her old apartment complex. Three days before Margot died, she called over Tracy and whispered in her ear, "Happy Thanksgiving."

Margot's gift was a gift that inspired more gifts. From that day onward, Tracy purposed in her heart to do generous things like Margot did for her. The day she went off welfare, she came to the office to give gifts to all the welfare workers. Tracy and her husband decided to become foster parents and eventually adopted a child. To this day, Tracy is on the lookout to give to others.

Giving is a beautiful thing. It blesses the receiver and the giver. Jesus knew this long ago—it is more blessed to give, than to receive. God loves a cheerful giver. We have no idea of the impact of our gifts upon others. Giving is a lot like sowing seeds of love, goodwill, joy, affirmation, encouragement, and peace. As a giving community, we will reap the fruit of the Spirit that nourishes everyone, including ourselves.

I thank God for you Immanuel—your generous spirit, your generosity in giving, and your generosity in serving is an inspiration—bringing joy to many. And in my mind's eye, I see God smiling on us, on you. As we plan for mission and ministry at Immanuel in this new decade, I want to thank you for the difference you are making and the joy you are bringing in our calling to discover and display Christ in here and out there! We'll be hearing throughout January about the life-changing power of giving from different Immanuel folks who have been a blessing to Immanuel and blessed by Immanuel. I'm excited about a new decade of ministry together!

Joyfully,
Pastor John

You are invited to...

Immanuel Immersion



What: Immanuel Immersion—a relaxed afternoon of refreshments and getting to know the pastor, church leadership, other new folks at the church & learning about all things Immanuel!

When: Sunday, January 26, 2020 from 2:00-4:00 pm

Where: Pastor John's home (10917 E. Roscommon St.)

Please RSVP to the church office (296-2253 or kate@immanuelpc.org) by January 22nd if you can join us.

Hope to see you there!

JANUARY YOUTH EVENTS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

ICE SKATING!

Jan 5th, 12-4pm

\$15 for skates/admission

CAP SERVICE PROJECT

Jan 12th, 5-7pm

Help out the bottle cap ministry by separating recyclable caps!

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY...\$\$\$

Jan 19 & 26, 5-7 pm, bring \$10

Dinner & Discussion on MONEY!

How to get it, save it, spend it & keep track of it!

This class is going on until March. Kris & Anita will be teaching. This is part of the Financial Peace University, just for youth. Financial assistance is available, just let Sarah or Kris know.

FOR MORE INFO ON YOUTH EVENTS CONTACT:

Kris at kris@immanuelpc.org or 520-241-9519

FINANCIAL *Peace*[®]

UNIVERSITY



SUNDAY NIGHTS

beginning

January 19th

5:30—7:00pm

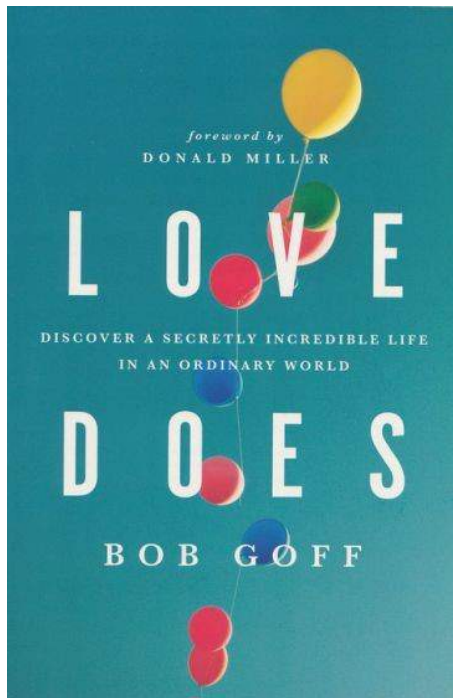
Witherspoon Hall

Room 13

- Cost for the course is \$99.00.
- Membership includes student books, group meetings and 12 months of Financial Peace Membership which includes an app to help you keep track of your monthly budget!
- Limited amount of \$50 scholarships are available.
- Childcare is available.
- Those who have attended every week will receive a \$25 rebate at the end of the class.
- No class on February 2nd and March 15th. Final class held on March 29th.

Register on the patio on Sundays, church office or online at fpu.com and use code 1106368

Contact Kris Goorsky to register at kris@immanuelpc.org.



New Adult Class

beginning January 12th at 9:45am

Author Bob Goff takes you on a journey full of stories and humor to discovering more joy, enthusiasm and a childlike abandon for life!

Come join us in Witherspoon Room 13 on Sunday mornings for this 5 week course.

The book is available for \$10.00.

Vikki Carpenter will be leading us in this amazing book study.

Have you noticed TOPS® meeting at our church on Tuesday evenings?

I am Sue Anderson and I thought I'd share a little about what TOPS® is all about. TOPS® is a nonprofit, non-commercial weight loss support group founded in 1948 to help members to **Take Off Pounds Sensibly**. TOPS® doesn't pay celebrities to endorse us. This is a network of thousands of weight-loss support groups across the US and Canada. These groups are called chapters and it is Chapter AZ0014 that meets here at Immanuel. We provide a non-judgmental place where people can learn how to make changes and get the support they need to reach their goals.



TOPS® can't do the work for you but we can provide tools, information, support and accountability needed to be successful at each stage of the journey including after you reach your goal weight which is then KOPS®, Keep Off Pounds Sensibly.

One of the things that sets the TOPS® program apart is group support. After all, no matter what kind of diet or exercise program you follow, no matter what health goals you set for yourself, having the support of others who share your goals and challenges can make all the difference. TOPS® method helps members stop dieting and start making changes you'll love and can keep for a lifetime. If your doctor prescribes a diet - TOPS® provides the "do it"

Interested in learning more? Join us on Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm in Towner Hall Room 4.

Desert Sanctuary Restoration Project



Immanuel's Desert Sanctuary began in 2007 with the Labyrinth designed by Zachary Atwell as an Eagle Scout project for Troop 157. In 2010 and the years following, Troop 157 added the ramada and created a full circle nature trail starting across a small bridge to the right of the main path around the back of the property. Stations of the Cross were set along the path so visitors could stop for a moment to read the inspirational message posted at that station about the Lord. This is what we are in the process of restoring.

The Desert Sanctuary provides a special place for many people to seek quiet including neighbors from the surrounding community, those who stop by to walk the labyrinth and spend a few quiet moments with the Creator, and fellow parishioners who enjoy moments of quiet and personal reflection in the midst of God's creation. We have the opportunity to give them all a very special gift, a beautiful, healthy desert landscape.

And so we are ready to start again on Saturday, January 11 to build on the encouraging progress from this past fall. Already the area is more open with much of the dead cactus and broken tree branches removed along the main pathway. You can see mourning doves and bunny rabbits scurrying as you walk along the path. Thank you to our very dedicated volunteers!



Our goal is to finish removing the dead cactus and the overgrowth on both sides of the main path, ramada and labyrinth before Holy Week and Easter (April 12). We will meet for 2 hours each of these Saturdays to restore the simple beauty of the surrounding desert.



Join us for an hour or two on Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 am.

- January 11, 25
- February 8, 22
- March 7, 21, 28

What to bring? Bring a smile, bring a shovel if you can, a garden rake, or pruning shears, loppers, a hat, and a good pair of gloves to protect your hands. No tools? We have extras. If you are gifted at trimming trees or sawing dead branches, your gifts and talents will be used! Your efforts will multiply with every other volunteer until our goal of a beautiful, healthy desert environment has been reached. Come join us!

Project Coordinator
Anita Hansen
ayhansen@cox.net

Gary Grochowski, Elder
Buildings and Grounds



Immanuel Junque Sale

**Save the Date
and Save your
Junque!**

Saturday, March 14

Blood Facts And Statistics

HEALTHWATCHCENTER.COM



4.5 million Americans need blood transfusion each year.

Someone needs blood every **2** seconds.



43,000 pints: amount of donated blood used each day in the U.S. and Canada



About **1** in **7** people entering a hospital needs blood.



One pint of blood can save up to **3** lives.

Most of the donated red blood cells can be stored up to **42** days.

Shortages of all blood types happen during the summer and winter holidays.



Most donated platelets can be stored up to **5** days.

Immanuel BLOOD DRIVE

Wear Your Team Colors!

**Saturday
January 18th
7:30am-12:30pm**

Towner Hall

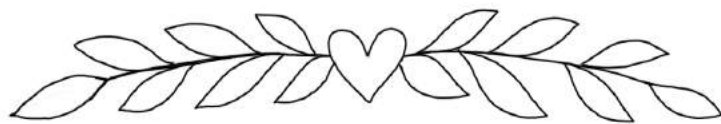
**Visit redcrossblood.org to sign up
or contact the church office**

YOUTH Christmas Party



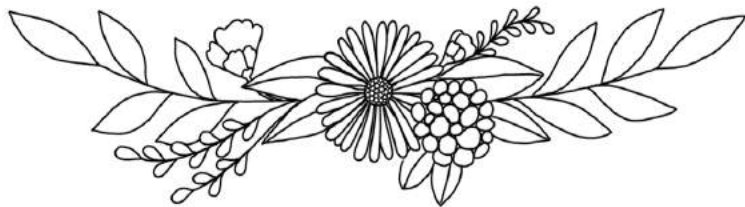
JANUARY CONNECTIONS

- **Casa Maria Ministry—January 11th at 8:00am.** Immanuel is one of many organizations in Tucson who regularly help to feed the hungry through donations of sack lunches to the Casa Maria Free Kitchen located in South Tucson. Want to help make sandwiches? Each lunch should contain two meat and cheese sandwiches (please use only butter/margarine—no mayo, mustard, lettuce or tomato), a piece of fruit (such as a banana, peach, pear, or orange), and a dessert (2 cookies, 1 brownie, etc.). Please bring your sack lunches to the church between 8:00am and 9:00am. The Casa Maria team leaves promptly at 9:00am.
- **Desert Sages - Welcome back Winter Residents and Visitors!** Want a quick way to meet others in the congregation? Desert Sages just might fit that bill. We are a group of great folks who meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00am in Witherspoon Hall to play games. (Hand & Foot, Rummikub, bridge, Mexican Train, & poker) At noon we have refreshments that we take turns furnishing. Everyone pitches in \$1 a week and once every 6 weeks or so we use that money to furnish a luncheon for everyone. Interested? Contact Mary Kay Bush at ausmbush3@gmail.com or (520) 885-0003 for more information.
- **Agape Circle meets on Wednesday, January 8th at 9:00am** at the home of Lorna Downard at 8701 E. Pomegranate. Judy Malis will be co-hostess. Jane Eddy will lead us in Lesson #5 of our Horizon Study Guide. Please let Lorna know if you are coming at (520) 298-6737 or ddownard@cox.net. New members are always welcome. If you are a winter resident come and get acquainted with some of Immanuel's great women.
- **Outings to the Movies** - Join us for our monthly movie dates provided there is a good movie to see, usually in the early afternoon at the discount theater, Century Gateway 12 on Kolb south of Speedway. Look for notices in the weekly Community Life announcements. Call Ann Thornes at (520) 298-8401 for any suggested movies you would like to see.
- **Men's Breakfast meets Mondays at 8:00am.** Join the guys in Witherspoon Hall for fellowship and great food—pancakes, sausage and lots of strong hot coffee. The Bible study is led by Pastor John Tittle.
- **Crafters Group meets Thursdays at 10:15am** in Witherspoon Rooms 12/13. Everyone is welcome! All types of crafting are welcome and encouraged! Whether you quilt, crochet, knit or are a master of popsicle stick creations, we would love to have you join our crew!
- **TOPS**— Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets **Tuesdays at 6:00pm** in Towner Hall Room 4.
- **AA** group meets **Wednesdays at 7:00pm and Thursdays at 6:30pm** in Towner Hall Room 4.
- **JANUARY Hospitality — For the month of January if your last name begins with X, Y or Z** - Help us provide goodies to share for our coffee fellowship following each worship service. Just choose a Sunday during this month and drop off your snacks in the Witherspoon kitchen prior to either service. Some popular snacks are cookies, fruit, veggies and dip, cheese, crackers, baked breads, sugar-free snacks, gluten-free snacks, Chex mix/popcorn.



TRUST in the LORD
with all thy HEART
and lean not unto thine
UNDERSTANDING
in all thy ways acknowledge
Him, and HE shall
DIRECT THY PATHS.

PROVERBS 3:5-6



Immanuel Elders on Session

Moderator, John Tittle
Clerk of Session, Laura Fennema

Christian Education

Amanda Leachet (2021)
Emily Honeycutt (2022)

Buildings & Grounds

Gary Grochowski (2021)
Ed Vander Woude (2022)

Communication & Connections

Joey Samoy (2022)

Finance & Stewardship

Wayne Barnes (2020)
Bruce Ellwein (2020)

Hospitality

Tama Jarvis (2021)
Chuck Wilkie (2021)
Kelly Wood (2020)

Mission & Evangelism

Gale Griffin (2020)
David Diebold (2022)

Personnel

Debbi Zimmermann (2020)

Worship Team

Joy Hager (2022)
Debby Johnson (2021)

Immanuel Deacons

Class of 2020: Fred Boomer, Erin Boomer, Lucy Greenleaf, Kevin Murphy, Cheryl Wood
Darlys Tippie

Class of 2021: Susan Barnes, Trudy Kingsolver, Judy Malis, Marie Roberts, Patti Piper

Class of 2022: Carol Kienbaum, Marlene Stevens, Florence Dungan, Ann Jarvis



Online giving is a safe, easy way to support the ministries of Immanuel Presbyterian Church. Through our SimpleChurch secure giving system, you will be able to give to Immanuel with or without an account. Your account information is guaranteed to be secure and private. Visit immanuelpc.org/giving.



Immanuel is registered on AmazonSmile! When you shop on Amazon, make sure to designate Immanuel on AmazonSmile. For every qualifying purchase, Immanuel will receive 0.5% - that can add up! Remember, always start your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:30pm AA	2 10:00am Crafters 6:30pm AA 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4
5 8:30am Worship 9:45am CE 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	6 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts	7 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS 6:30pm Deacons	8 9:00am Agape Circle 7:30pm AA	9 10:00am Crafters 6:30pm AA 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11 8:00am Casa Maria
12 8:30am Worship 9:45am CE 11:00am Worship 5:00pm Youth Group	13 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Lydia Circle 6:30pm Boy Scouts	14 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS 7:00pm Session	15 7:30pm AA	16 10:00am Crafters 6:30pm AA 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18 7:30am Blood Drive
19 8:30am Worship 9:45am CE 11:00am Worship 5:00pm Youth Group 5:30pm FPU	20 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts	21 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS	22 7:30pm AA	23 10:00am Crafters 6:30pm AA 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	24 DOG SHOW	25 DOG SHOW
26 8:30am Worship 9:45am CE 11:00am Worship 5:00pm Youth Group 5:30pm FPU	27 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts	28 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS 7:00pm Ministry Night	29 7:30pm AA	30 10:00am Crafters 6:30pm AA 6:45pm Choir Rehearsal	31	



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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(520) 296-2253 www.immanuelpc.org