

Announcements

Sunday Morning Prayer:

Sunday morning prayer time continues via teleconferencing every Sunday at 8:30 AM. You can use the call-in number: 605-313-5297, Access Code: 577829. Contact Rod Bowers if you have questions.

Senior Center Help:

IBC is mowing the garden area at the Senior Center. The mowing takes about 45 minutes and needs to be done once a week. A reliable push mower is located in the shed next to the garden. Please email or call Carl if you can take the month of August or September. (carlschwarze@gmail.com or 734-323-3527)

Offer for Masks:

Sandy Diemer makes face masks and has offered to make some available to those who may be having difficulty getting a mask. She can be called or emailed at the information in the church directory, or contact the church office. If she doesn't answer the phone, please leave a message.

Communion Service:

This morning we will be celebrating communion during the worship service. Please gather whatever you'd like from your kitchen to serve as the bread and the juice.

IBC Missions Update

Carl & Cindy Reed/WorldVenture



May 6, 2020: Dear Friends, Greetings from the Reeds in Indonesia. We last wrote to you at the end of March as Indonesia was beginning to close down schools, universities and seminaries as they were meeting the challenge of Covid-19. We began to "shelter in place" on March 22, and are still "sheltering" and "waiting."

Update: Covid-19 in Indonesia - It is still unclear how many cases of Covid-19 there are in Indonesia. Indonesia has one of the lowest rates of testing for the virus in Asia. Estimates for the number actual cases vary from tens of thousands to a million with actual deaths from 20,000 on up. Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, is the main

epicenter of the disease, and even though the government has mandated strict social distancing rules, people in the outlying communities are still taking trains into the city to work. One very positive step the government has taken is to forbid people to go to their home towns during the Islamic holiday (Idul Fitri) on May 24-26th. Normally, about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ million people leave Jakarta and travel to central and east Java for the holidays. The government has canceled domestic flights, trains, and most buses that travel between the provinces from April 25 through May 29th and has check points on roads to try and keep people from traveling by car or motorbike.

Here in Yogyakarta, there does not seem to be many cases of the virus yet. So far, there have been no students at the university or seminary who are sick, and no one in our neighborhood seems to have the virus. There have been very few people admitted to hospitals here with Covid-19. But again, without testing it is hard to know what is actually going on. Our local neighborhood has blocked several of the roads to cut down on traffic, and is trying to make sure everybody who goes out wears a mask. Some of the other neighborhoods don't have any road blocks, while others have blocked every street in except for one road, where they check everyone coming in. Cindy and I still go for our daily walks of about three miles.

Like many of you, we have spent the last month learning to do all of our normal activities in new ways. Cindy is making video lectures for some of her counseling courses, and posting them on You Tube for her students to watch. She is also making up weekly work sheets for each of her 3 classes which the students have to

answer and send to her via WhatsApp after watching the videos and reading the her class material. Carl is continuing to work with students writing their theses and dissertations, mostly via email and WhatsApp.

We are having more contacts with our extended mission team in Indonesia via Zoom meetings a couple of times a month. (Normally we only see our missionary colleagues in Jakarta, Bali, and Sulawesi once a year at our annual Field Fellowship. It is great to be able to talk and pray with them every month!)

We are getting a chance to watch Sunday services online from some of our supporting churches in the U.S., and also online church services at our churches in Indonesia. Celebrating Easter without being able to meet together physically was a new experience, but it does help us to realize that we don't have to always do things the traditional way to enjoy time with God and his people.

Cindy is able to do some counseling sitting outside on our porch with her counselee, six feet away and wearing masks. It is nice that nobody is out on the streets so they can't listen in! Carl is making progress on writing a book on Hebrew Exegesis.

Church Office Closed:

The church office is closed until further notice due to the "Stay at Home" order.

Instructions on Giving:

There are two ways to remain faithful in giving back to the Lord.

- You can mail your check to Immanuel Bible Church (145 East Summit Street, Chelsea, MI 48118).
- Give online using the secure giving platform on our website Click on the "Financial Giving" link in the top right corner of IBC's home page at ibcchelsea.com.

<u>Instructions to view or listen to this week's message</u>:

Go to the church website at ibcchelsea.com, and you'll see instructions on the main page. You can join us in worship this Sunday morning by clicking on the word SERMONS in the menu bar above, or on the "Sermons" bubble you can reach by scrolling down to the "Preaching the Word" section. This week's sermon will be the first one listed. You can either listen or watch by clicking on the links.

Opportunities for Assistance:

IBC would like to take the opportunity to serve those in our church and community who may need assistance during this time. PLEASE let us know how we can serve you.

- Grocery/errand runs for those who are high risk (elderly, immuno-compromised, pregnant or sick). Let us help pick up and deliver your groceries, medications, or anything else you might need. We have had numerous volunteers offer to help with grocery pick-up.
- Child care on a limited basis. For those in need of child care during this time, please let us know. We have several families available to help watch kids on a limited basis.
- Please contact one of the elders to coordinate any needs not included on this list as well. Feel free to extend this offer to anyone you may know who needs extra support or encouragement during this time.

Church Contact Information

Phone: (734) 475-8936 Church offices: 145 E. Summit St., Chelsea, MI Website: www.ibcchelsea.com **Office hours:** *Closed until further notice*

Email: immanuelbiblechurch@comcast.net Pastoral Search Committee: ibcchelsea.psc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor: David McCune (cwbydave84@gmail.com)

Interim Pastor: Russ Park (russapark@gmail.com, 989-277-2574)

IBC Elders: Jerry Benjamin (313-910-8971, jwbneb@gmail.com)

Rod Bowers (734-417-0200, rodbowers@aol.com)
Steven Bonnett (734-747-1006, opus17@hotmail.com)
Patrick Brady (586-876-3798, patrick.brady89@gmail.com)

Joe Cottle (734-730-2410, ecottle68@gmail.com)