

Iglesia "El Camino"



Junio 20, celebramos el picnic por el día del padre en Koser Park.

June 20th. Father's Day picnic gathering at Koser Park.

Junio 20, dedicación de los hijos de Imer Vega y Máxima Fernandez de Perú.

June 20th, Children's dedication of Imer Vega and Maxima Fernandez from Peru.



Niños de El Camino durante la semana de la Escuela Bíblica Vacacional.

El Camino Children at VBS week.

Los niños del estudio bíblico de Damas, disfrutando en el verano.

Ladies Bible Study with our kids enjoying the summer.



Contact Information

Terry Smith
Senior Pastor
tsmith@immanuelcma.org

Rick Shell
Associate Pastor
rshell@immanuelcma.org

Duane Stine
Assistant Pastor
Student Ministries
dstine@immanuelcma.org

Chester Musser
Associate Pastor for
Senior Adult Ministries
cmusser@immanuelcma.org

Xavier Godoy
Pastor
Iglesia "El Camino"
xgodoy@immanuelcma.org

College/Young Adult Ministry
collegcentral@immanuelcma.org

Brenda Verna
Office Secretary
secretary@immanuelcma.org

Church Office
766-4633
Fax: 766-6712
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
www.immanuelcma.org



Classic cars • Moon Bounce
Pony Rides
Obstacle Course
Free Throw Contest
Kids' Crafts • Puppets
Hot dogs • Popcorn
Sno Cones • Soft Drinks

Saturday, August 7th
11 AM to 3 PM



THE MESSENGER

IMMANUEL CHURCH 800 SOUTH MARKET STREET, MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055

From The Senior Pastor's Desk



We have been enriched as a church body the last couple of years during the fall by doing a unified study – all of our *Connections* small groups studying the same topic as the message series that I am preaching. Two years ago we studied Blackaby's *Experiencing God* and last year we focused on Yancey's *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* This year we will engage in a study of the Holy Spirit. Our *Connections* small groups will be using Francis Chan's *Forgotten God* to guide the study and discussion. The subtitle of Chan's book is *Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit*.

During this series of messages, we will also have a Deeper Life Sunday on September 19 with Dr. David Schroeder as our special speaker (10:30 AM and 7:00 PM). Dr. Schroeder is a longtime C&MA minister, administrator, and educator. He currently serves as the President of Somerset (NJ) Christian College. He writes in his book *Walking in Your Anointing* of his desire to "encourage biblical Christians to reclaim our birthright." He goes on to say, "I believe that modernism has diluted our theology and experience of the Holy Spirit. The effect of this is a disempowered clergy and laity within many churches." Of our perhaps over-reaction to Pentecostal/Charismatic movement, Dr. Schroeder writes, "One suspects that many evangelicals have thrown out the pearl with the shell" (pg. 3).

Francis Chan, familiar to our students who attended LIFE 2010, writes in *Forgotten God*, "From my perspective, the Holy Spirit is tragically neglected and, for all practical purposes, forgotten. While no evangelical would deny His existence, I'm willing to bet there are millions of churchgoers across America who cannot confidently say they have experienced His presence or action in their lives over the past year. And many of them don't believe they can" (pg. 15).

Chances are all of us could benefit from some additional study of the Scriptures about who the Holy Spirit is and what ministry He desires to have in our lives and in the church. Chances are all of us could benefit from the additional experience of the Holy Spirit in our personal lives and in our corporate gatherings. Let's be praying with open minds, open Bibles, and open hearts and see what the Holy Spirit will do during this time to the glory of Jesus Christ in His church!

Pastor Terry

From The Associate Pastor's Desk - Why Vacation in Disneyland?



Why are Disneyland and Disneyworld such popular places to visit while on vacation? Why do these places keep bringing people back?

Since its opening on July 17, 1955, Disneyland has had over 600 million visitors. In 2009, Disneyland had 15.9 million visitors. Sharron, and I were two of those people who made up that record attendance. Since 2003, we have visited the park five times, and this year we purchased a three-day pass. So what brings out so many people each year to visit this theme park?

Below is a quote from Walt Disney's speech to the press the day Disneyland opened to the public:

"To all who come to this happy place: -Welcome- Disneyland is your land. Here age relives fond memories of the past ... and here youth may savor the challenge and promise of the future. Disneyland is dedicated to the ideals, the dreams, and the hard facts that have created America ... with the hope that it will be a source of joy and inspiration to all the world."—Walter E. Disney, July 17, 1955 4:43pm

These words share what Mr. Disney wanted to see accomplished by this theme park. A "happy place"; a place where people could relive fond memories of their past. Walt Disney wanted adults and their families to be able to escape from the harsh realities of life and be a child again with their children.

It is amazing to watch a variety of races, nationalities, age groups and sexes going through the park. I saw huge men with tattoos covering their arms taking their children through the park with smiles on their faces, and I couldn't help but wonder what brought them out. Was it to relive happy memories from their past, or was it to make new memories with their kids? To be honest, I had to ask myself why I was visiting Disneyland.

~ Cont'd on next page

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010

OUR MISSION IS TO LOVE GOD, LOVE EACH OTHER,
AND HAVE A PASSION TO REACH THE UNSAVED.

Disneyland cont'd

My first visit to a Disney Park was on my senior high trip to Orlando when I was 17 years old to visit Disneyworld, which had opened the year before. When Sharron and I were married part of our honeymoon was spent visiting Disneyworld and Epcot Center for three days. Why do we keep going back? Is it the rides and attractions, the food, the people, reliving happy memories from the past, or creating new ones for the future?

I think it is a combination of all of the above. I think it is an attempt to break out of the ordinary, tedious day-to-day life, and attempt to live an exciting one. To live a life that experiences excitement and thrills every minute as one rides the coasters, "Tower of Terror", and the other rides that give a sensation of flying through the air. But, then it is followed by journeying with Peter Pan, Snow White, and going through "It's a Small World", which allows us to leave this world and reside in one which is happy, peaceful, stress-free, and comforting.

I don't think there is anything wrong with going to amusement parks and breaking out of the routine day-to-day events that we experience in "real life", but I think we need to be cautious. These theme parks can bring happiness, and help us develop fond memories, but they cannot deliver on bringing us true joy.

There is only one way in which a person can experience true joy, and that is achieved only by having a healthy, vibrant relationship with Christ Jesus. As I slowed down and started watching the people in Disneyland, I started asking myself how many of these people had a personal, life-changing encounter with Christ as their Savior and Lord. How many of these visitors to the park were looking to Disneyland to give them only what they could find in Jesus Christ? The reality is that once they left the park with all these fond memories, they were going to have to go back into the "real world" and face what they had left behind. Would Disneyland be able to carry them through the year as they encountered all the ups and downs that life brings one's way? The answer is "of course not!" Yet look at how many are trying to cope with life by trying to live in a make-believe world, only to find out that it doesn't work.

You and I know that Person who never leaves us or forsakes us. As we enjoy our summer vacation getaways, we don't want to forget the One who gives us hope to face this world, and causes us to look towards a future that no amusement park can ever capture.

As we make our excursions, remember that we want others around us to see Christ in us - the hope of glory. Even when we have a bad day at an amusement park, we can still experience the joy of the Lord. As other vacationers see how we handle the ups and downs on our getaways, maybe it will cause them to wonder why we are different and, hopefully, lead them to ask us why.

Pastor Rick

Oh Ye of Little Faith by Dave Rundle

I admit it – I am a man of little faith most times. Take this past year for example: Marge and I went to Florida for what was to be our eleventh winter spent in the warmth of our winter home. But our minds were stirring within us because we felt we should place our comfortable double-wide mobile home for sale. This was for a number of reasons, but primarily because I was being stressed trying to keep two homes in good repair and due to escalating costs in both Florida and Pennsylvania. So, after lifting our thoughts to the Lord in prayer, we made the difficult decision – we put our Florida place up for sale, and if it took one or two years to sell – that would give us more time in the sun. The housing market in Florida was in shambles and we were told that even mobile homes were taking one to two years to sell. We had seen all around our park, mobile homes that had been for sale, and lying empty, for several years.

We listed our home with a realtor on Thursday, December 10, 2009, and had three potential buyers touring through the place by Friday, December 18, 2009. An offer was made to us (less than what we asked but more than we had expected) on Saturday, December 19, 2009, and the check was in our hands on Thursday, December 24, 2009.



What happened to the one-to-two year time frame? Did we pray too earnestly? Did we really have to pack-up and move out before the first of the New Year? The answer was that indeed we did have to leave and at closing it became clear to Marge and I just how awesome our God is, for it was then that we heard the story from the buyer's side.

Mel and Margaret Plumber, the buyers, had lived in the same park as ours for several years. They owned a single-wide mobile home that was beneath large oak trees. From late 2007 or early 2008 Mel had been riding past our place on his three-wheeled bike thinking, "I would like to own that place! It's a double-wide with no trees around it." He was tired of the tree mess, squirrels, and acorns dropping on his roof. When our listing was posted, he and Margaret pounced.

In retrospect, selling this vacation home humbled me before our Lord. Ephesians 3:20 was called to mind, "Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us," (NASB). Think of that – "beyond all that we ask or think"! The Lord was working to answer our prayer at least one year before we asked for Him to help us sell our place. Matthew Henry says of this verse, "Whatever we may ask, or think to ask, still God is able to do abundantly more, exceedingly abundantly." I must admit that a little part of me would have appreciated the process to take a little longer – but if it had, I would have missed how great our God is and how much He wants to answer the prayers of His children.

Are you a Christian? Do you trust in Jesus alone? Are you facing some difficult challenge or obstacle in your life? Well, be assured that if you are God's child, by grace through faith in Jesus, God is more than willing and able to meet your need. For Marge and me, this was an amazing experience. But don't expect me on the next go around to be a man of great faith. I seem to be a very slow learner. As for now, let me just say, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

We're back from **LIFE 2010!** What an exciting and wonderful trip. Okay, the traveling part wasn't all that great...11 ½ hours each way on a bus. But over all, it wasn't all that bad. We definitely slept more on the way back than on the way out. Personally, I felt great during the entire week, but when I got home and settled, I slept for 16 hours in the first 24 hours at home! It is a trip that is exhausting from many angles. The greatest of all are the emotional and spiritual aspects. There are so many high points that it is difficult to start listing them but I will at least touch on a few. All of the speakers were amazing. God spoke through Francis Chan as he dealt with the Collision of Creation. Derwin Gray spoke on the Collision of Christ. James Grout connected us with the Collision of Faith and the Collision of the Church. Jason Ostrander, the national youth leader, brought us into God's presence every day by praying over the 7,000 member crowd and leading the many components of the sessions. The Logan Martin Band powerfully led us into times of worship. Other aspects of the services included a missions parade, a "live" presentation from AB Simpson, a moving story by Dr. David Thompson, an inspiring testimony of surrender and healing by a lady only known as "Meredith", and much more. It was not until we got back and had more opportunity to "debrief" that I realized how much our students gleaned from the services.

In addition to the services and seminars, we had lots of time for activities and games and opportunities to sit and get to know each other. One of the most heart-tugging activities was the walk through "The Project Experience". This was a hands-on, interactive tour through the rough conditions that much of the world experiences. There were times at the end for reflection and to speak to missionaries about specific details and ways to get involved. This was one of the most somber and moving times of the entire week.

One other highlight from the week was the offering that was taken to help with new missionary initiatives. The students gave over \$86,000 in cash as well as an additional \$159,000 in faith promises!

I could go on and on. I am praising God that He heard your prayers and mine and gave us a safe and impacting week. Please pray for the students as they step down from the "mountain top" and back in to real life.

Pastor Duane



The entire group!



Even Asher is having fun!



At the ball field waiting in the HEAT for the Kutless concert to start!



The lunch line for 7,000 hungry teenagers!