



Learning to *Lean In*

by: Brittany Peralta

There are seasons in life when the world just feels heavy. When life just feels heavy. When change comes unexpectedly, when relationships are strained, when rumors spread faster than truth, and when the path forward seems uncertain. It can feel like you're walking in the dark, reaching for something, something hopeful, something holy. If that's where you are right now, you're not alone.

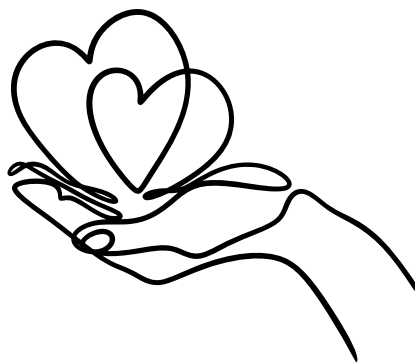
Scripture reminds us over and over again that God meets us not just in joy, but in chaos. Psalm 34:18 says, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." In Proverbs 3:5-6, it says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." That means in the messy, confusing, hurting moments, God is already there. Not waiting at the finish line, but walking beside you in the hurt, fear, and in the darkness.

It can be tempting in times of struggle to shut down, to isolate, to protect ourselves from more hurt. But Christ calls us to something different. To lean in. To love more boldly. To be honest, humble, and open-minded even when it's hard. Jesus never promised that following him would be easy; however, he promised we wouldn't have to do it alone. You are not alone, and you are enough.

At Immanuel, we're holding onto that truth right now. We are walking through a time of transition and uncertainty, but we're doing it with faith. Not blind faith, but the kind that takes root when people come together, admit what's hard, and choose to hope anyway. To pray through the mess and to love on each other through the chaos.

We are choosing to believe that God is not finished with us. That this community, this church, this preschool, is being refined and rebuilt for something even better. We may not know exactly what it looks like yet, but we trust the One who does. The One who is, who was, and is to come.

So if you're feeling weary, discouraged, or even heartbroken, *lean in*. Lean into your faith. Lean into each other. Lean into the grace that still shows up every single day. Because even when it feels like everything is falling apart, God is still in the business of putting things back together. And when the light does break through, and it will, you'll see just how far you've come. Not because the road was easy, but because you walked it with God, hand in hand. Heart to heart.



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Altar Guild

THE ALTAR GUILD DOES NOT MEET IN JULY OR AUGUST, BUT WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SERVE COMMUNION AT ALL SERVICES AT BOTH LOCATIONS.

IF INTERESTED, LET EITHER PASTOR KNOW, OR CALL MARJ SMITH AT 772-286-8974 TO GET ON THE SCHEDULE.

PRESCHOOL UPDATE

Dear Immanuel Parents,

It's been a busy and important week at the Immanuel Early Learning Center, and we want to take a moment to update you directly. As many of you know, there have been some staff changes recently, including the recent separation from last year's Preschool Director, which took place last Friday. While some transitions were anticipated, others were not, and we understand that change can feel uncertain, especially when it involves those caring for your children.

In addition, we're pleased to share that Krystal Weaver is returning to our team as a VPK teacher. We are bringing in a consultant to help with interim leadership and VPK operations along with support directly from the Early Learning coalition.

As the Vice President of the Church Council and head of Human Resources for the church and preschool, I want to offer some clarity and assurance about where we're headed.

The Immanuel Church Council is made up of a diverse, committed group of individuals. This includes several local business leaders and parents with children in the Martin County school system. We care deeply about our school, our staff, and most importantly, your children. No single person makes decisions alone. Everything is discussed and voted on as a group, with great care.

Over the past several months, we've been working toward a clear vision. Our goal is to make Immanuel not just a good preschool, but a premier place for young learners in our area. That means consistent, high-quality curriculum, stronger teacher support and training, and an environment where every child thrives. After much time, prayerful thought, and discernment, it became evident that a change in leadership was necessary to move forward with that vision.

We recognize the timing is not ideal. At the same time, we believe there is never a wrong time to make the right decision. While some temporary disruption is to be expected, we are confident that the long-term benefits will far outweigh the challenges.

If you felt last year was good, we're excited to show you just how much better it can be. We are committed to open communication throughout this transition and to providing your children with the joyful, enriching preschool experience they deserve. I welcome the opportunity to speak with each and every one of you about the future of Immanuel Early Learning Center.

Thank you for your trust and continued support.
Drew High
Vice President & Head of Human Resources



YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

BY BRITTANY PERALTA

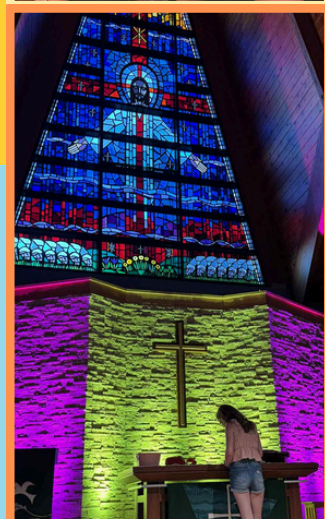
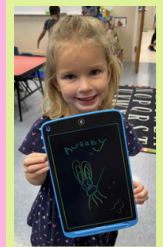
Hey Immanuel Youth and Families,

What an amazing summer it's been so far! June was packed with fun and faith-filled moments, from laughter in Children's Church to deep conversations in Youth Group. One of our favorite lessons was learning about helping our neighbors by, yes, you're reading this right, wrapping our friends in toilet paper! The giggles were plenty, but the message was clear: we are called to care for one another, even in the messiest moments.

Our Youth Group night was a total blast! We played Telestrations, danced our hearts out in Just Dance, and got real as we broke down the lyrics of a popular song and connected it to Scripture. To end the night, we wrote down something we wanted to release to God and watched it dissolve away in water; a beautiful reminder to trust God with the things we're carrying.

Looking ahead, we're excited for our Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 10th. It's a special time to pray over our students, teachers, and families as they head into a brand new school year. We hope you'll join us for this meaningful moment during worship!

Also, Confirmation is coming soon, so keep an eye out for the 2025–2026 schedule from Mrs. Amy and me. We're looking forward to another great year of growing in faith together. We are so incredibly blessed to have you and your families as part of our community. Thank you for your presence, your energy, and your faithful hearts.



Preschool Supply Wish List



YOU AND I
CAN HELP



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Monthly Giving Report

A report of our combined Palm City & Stuart giving compared to the approved budget the congregation agreed to at the annual meeting.

	June, 2025	YTD 2025
Given	\$49,953.63	\$254,419.16
Budgeted	\$43,362.50	\$260,175.00
Difference	\$6,591.13	(\$5,755.84)

Operating Fund Income and Expenses

Our year-to-date operating income and expenses using the latest report of the treasurer.

ILC & IELC	YTD 2025
Income	\$700,130.44
Expenses	\$557,433.24
Difference	\$142,697.20



PALM CITY:
2655 SW Immanuel Drive
Palm City, FL 34990
772.287.8188

STUART
2200 NW Federal Hwy
Stuart, FL 34994
772.692.1171

Nonprofit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Stuart, FL
Permit No. 144

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

LABOR DAY WORSHIP

August 31st
One Service
10 AM
Palm City

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Thrivent Action Team

When: August 1 at 11:00 AM
Where: Pineapple Chalet, 3472 NE Savannah Rd, Jensen Beach
What: Presentation by Safe Space
Why: To collect school supplies to support those families.
Lunch: An indoor picnic lunch will be served.
Contact: Judy Wakeman 772-287-4689
ALL ARE WELCOME

BACK TO SCHOOL

Bless The Backpacks
8/10 @ 9:30 Worship

thrivent MEMBERS

If you have not used your Action Team, please consider applying for an Action Team card because we need your help with the Snack Bag program. We seem to be giving out more "Snack Bags" every week. Please do not leave the "money" unused.

For those of you, who have already used your Thrivent Benefit, Thank you! For those of you who donate items for the "Snack Bags", another Thank you! We cannot continue this program without your support. The people who receive these "Bags" are very appreciative and thank us every week. Immanuel's Souper Sunday or Immanuel Early Learning Center would also appreciate help.

To apply for an Action Team, call the Thrivent home office at 800 -847-4836. For additional information call me, Karen Coombs, at 772-475-3312 or your Thrivent representative.