



# Immanuel Insider



Volume 1, Issue 10

December 2009

*Immanuel Baptist Church, 109 East 40th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., 604-327-4010*



## Pastor Charlie and Marty say Goodbye

*"...speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Ephesians 4:15-16*

For the last two years I have served the Lord and Immanuel Baptist Church as your Intentional Interim Senior Pastor. The calling of an Intentional Interim Pastor is to help prepare the church for the calling of a Senior Pastor and to assist the church and its leadership in becoming more healthy and effective, and to that end I have laboured.

For these two short years, I have enjoyed laying a solid biblical foundation for the church through preaching and teaching the Word of God, and have had the privilege of getting to know each one of you. Together we have seen some come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, some baptized in obedience to Christ, some celebrated as they went home to be with Jesus in Glory, some grow in their walk with the Lord, some serve in the many different ministries and leadership

positions at Immanuel, some leave Vancouver to study or work elsewhere, and some enjoying the fun, food and fellowship that Immanuel offers to all.

Many have prayed for us and encouraged us in the Gospel ministry at Immanuel and we will miss you. We have greatly enjoyed the wonderful experience of brothers and sisters in Christ from different cultures and languages worshipping and serving the Lord together. This remains one of the greatest potential opportunities for outreach and church growth. It is a beautiful image of heaven itself.

You now face the calling of a permanent Senior Pastor and we pray that our work here has prepared you for your next stage of ministry for the Lord.

As we leave your fellowship, we encourage you to make prayer for Immanuel and for your new pastor a priority. I encourage you to encourage him and thank him often. Give him the privilege of not just being your pastor but also your spiritual leader, a servant leader of Immanuel as well as the individual sheep in his flock. Follow him as he follows Christ. Most of all, pray for him and his family on a daily basis.

As Marty and I await God's call for our next place of ministry, we covet your prayers. Again, thank you for being patient with us and for allowing God to use us in your lives. May God bless you all.



The lighter side

A message in English & Korean



Marty at the piano



**Amahl Opera a Great Success!** By Frank Klassen

Thank you so much for partnering with us in presenting this wonderful opera as a Fundraiser for Covenant House! Our production of Amahl and the Night Visitors has been the most successful Opera Appassionata production to date, and that is something you can be very proud of, since you helped make it happen! We broke our audience

record, 131 persons at the Dec. 4 performance! The proceeds from "Amahl" amount to a \$5,554.65 donation to Covenant House which is more than double the entire donations to other charities we were able to give in Opera Appassionata's first year of operations!

For the first time we were invited to a live interview on CBC 1 with Stephen Quinn to promote "Amahl and the Night Visitors"!

Most importantly, the amazing audience reactions from all ages show that we were able to bring the message of Christmas through this opera to the hearts of over 600 people! With thanks to God.



Opera Appassionata Stage Events [www.operaappassionata.org](http://www.operaappassionata.org)

**Enjoying the Season** by Chelsey Hugelshofer

The youth enjoy ice skating at Riley Park on December 18.



The Korean dancers present a dance done with candles for the Farewell service & the January 3 service.



**Memory Book Surprise**

by Diana Panton

God orchestrated the timing of the Worleys' visit to a previous church's anniversary celebration brilliantly because their absence on a Sunday morning allowed us to begin the process of creating a memory scrapbook without their knowledge.

Many members of the church body contributed pages to the book, each one including either photos, blessings, memories, or words of appreciation and thanks. Each page was unique, and each fit in perfectly with the rest. I collated the pages, with help from Kathryn and others, and the final result was a book that illustrated just how much the Worleys have meant to the church family at Immanuel. For those who were able to witness Marty's reaction to receiving this gift, there is no doubt at all that it was, and will be, treasured.

**Christmas Celebrations**

by Iris Naguschewski

Twenty-eight people attended the German Christmas fellowship, Dec. 9, enjoying a traditional Christmas luncheon with open-faced sandwiches and home-made baking. The strands of mini lights among the fresh greenery on the table added even more delight to the festive meal. Manfred Schmidt brought a video of Andre Rieu sharing his personal childhood Christmas memories celebrated in the beautiful European style. Singing carols along with Rieu's orchestra transported us all back to the homeland.

The English Women's Fellowship, Dec. 10 was attended by 18 ladies. The devotion highlighted all the miracles mentioned in the Christmas story, and fitting carols were sung to accompany each miracle. As in other years, we brought presents for a gift exchange. A right-left story was read, and with much laughter the gifts whirled back and forth around the table before landing in the lap of the final recipient. The evening ended with refreshments and yummy home-made Christmas baking.

**Coming Events**

- Jan. 12** Bible Study at Naguschewski's
- Jan. 13** German Bible Study with Manfred Schmidt
- Jan. 15** Youth Ministry and Refresh meet
- Jan. 16** Korean Prayer Meeting
- Jan. 21** English Women's Fellowship
- Jan. 23** Chinese Fellowship
- Jan. 28** Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsals begin again
- Jan. 29** Combined Youth and Refresh Ministry
- Jan. 30** Men's Breakfast
- Jan. 30** Watoto Children's Choir at Bethany Baptist Church
- Jan. 31** Immanuel Annual General Meeting

