

Welcome to Immanuel!

### A Community with Vision

Immanuel is a dynamic Christian missional community living the Vision of "***Growing into Christ***". We don't tell people what that vision means except that it is who we are as a community. We invite you to ask God what that vision of "Growing into Christ" means to you, and to tell us what you discover in that conversation.

### A Community with Purpose

Our purpose statement answers the question of why we are here in this place at this time in history. Our purpose statement is: ***We are engaged in a personal and shared life journey driven by life-changing encounters with Jesus that lead us to accept people where they are, and encourage them to find their gifts from God and to go deeper into the vision of "Growing into Christ". We have come to understand that our calling is to bring others with us into developing God's mission here on earth.*** Again, we do not presume to tell you what this statement means for you. Rather we invite you to ask God what it means for you and we invite you to let us find a way to connect your life to it.

### A Community with Seeds of the Kingdom of God

We have 3 seeds of the Kingdom embedded within each of us here at Immanuel: 1) ***We give ourselves away.*** By this we mean that no blessing from God is ever for us alone, and we

strive to experience the blessings of God by passing those blessings on to people who have yet to experience them. 2) ***We connect the disconnected.*** This seed keeps us constantly focused outward, tending to points of disconnection in the world. Some people are disconnected from God. Others are disconnected from faith. Some people have a lot of both of those but are disconnected from justice, or decent housing, shelter, or food. We strive to partner with them to connect them using all the gifts at our disposal. 3) ***We live life together.*** We are a community of people who are deeply connected to one another, but not because we are all alike. We are not all alike. But we are all seeking to live in God's Kingdom, to follow Christ, to allow ourselves to be broken open and used to help God heal vulnerable and wounded people. That unity of purpose and Spirit, drives us to see each other far more than once per week. We know each other. We celebrate one another's victories, and we grieve one another's losses. We know each other's children. We share meals in one another's homes. And we struggle together in fulfillment of our purpose.

### A Missional Community

Every person who has a vote at Immanuel is actively involved in a mission or ministry that spends at least ten percent of its time and budget working for the Kingdom of God outside the walls of the church. While the precise definition of a Missional church is still emerging, there are some common factors that are shared among

those communities that are committed to the idea:

Ten Essential Practices of Missional Churches:

1. Everyone who is the object of the mission is also the subject of it, and vice-versa. Maintain a high threshold for membership
2. Be real, not real religious
3. Teach to follow Christ rather than to simply know things about faith
4. Rewrite worship every week to keep it new and fresh
5. Live Apostolically as people who are called to be sent
6. Expect to change the world
7. Order actions according to missional purpose
8. Measure growth by capacity to release, not retain
9. Place Kingdom concerns first in both community and personal lives

It is our hope that these practices will give you some idea of who we are.

### A Worshipping Community

Immanuel's participants cross all demographic lines. We consider our whole lives worship – all that we offer up to God. We gather on Sunday morning to celebrate what God is doing in the world, and to celebrate the mission that we participate in. Our service of worship is a blended style, and is rarely the same two Sundays in a row. It is designed to be inspiring, healing, and thought provoking with an eye toward personal growth.

*Object and Subject  
Of Mission*



*Mission to Friendship*



*Friendship to  
Discipleship*



*Discipleship to  
Leadership*



*Leadership to  
Apostleship*



**IMMANUEL - BROOKFIELD**

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Welcome to



*IMMANUEL  
In Brookfield*

[www.growingintochrist.org](http://www.growingintochrist.org)

(ABC-USA)

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