

# ★ THE CHRISTMAS PLEDGE

1. To remember those people who truly need my gifts.
2. To express my love for family and friends in more direct ways than presents.
3. To rededicate myself to the spiritual growth of my family.
4. To examine my holiday activities in light of the true meaning of Christmas.
5. To initiate an act of peacemaking within my circle of family and friends.

From Unplug the Christmas Machine | by Jo Robinson and Jean Coppic

## CHANGE YOUR WORLD IN 2023

- Pray for your friends and family.
- Text, FB, or write a message of encouragement.
- Show mercy to those who don't expect it.
- Share your resources generously.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY | 01/01/23**

Break in the New Year with us as we gather for a Raise a Praise Celebration followed by an Open House at the Huerta's.



Dec 04 » HOPE  
Dec 11 » PEACE  
Dec 18 » JOY  
Dec 22 » CHRISTMAS  
===== SERVICE

# Prayer REQUESTS

## ▶ SALVATION

- Walter Miner III     Gearen Family     Tom M.     Stein Family
- Ryan K.             Tyler M.             Mandy W.     Dave. O

## ▶ HEALTH ISSUES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ruth H. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art B. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Armando » Back Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Jean G. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carlos V. » Leukemia</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Karla D. » Cancer Recovery</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evelyn K. » Cong. Heart Failure</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mandy W. » Cancer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maggie B. » Chemotherapy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Merle » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Chuck » Hand Injury</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carlos V. » Health Issues</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Angie &amp; Family » Life Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bob Arias » Kidney Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Kensey Dunlap » Broken Back</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> George I. » Hospitalized</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Samantha B. » Health Issues</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bob A. » Kidney Cancer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dave O. » Hospice</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Christine P. » Bone Cancer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Howard P. » Diagnosis Pending</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Karen P. » COVID</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bob S. » By-Pass Surgery</li> </ul> |
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## METRICS THAT MATTER (12/18/22)

ATTENDANCE ▶ 31    GIVING ▶ \$650    GUESTS ▶ 0  
 VOLUNTEERS ▶ 15    DECISIONS FOR CHRIST ▶ 0

# EMMANUEL: God with Us

*All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken of by the Lord through the prophet: Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, And they shall name him Emmanuel. Which means God is with us. Isaiah 7:14*

**This is a dual prophecy:**

- 1. First, to Ahaz, King of Judah, who trembled at the armies of Israel and Syria as they amassed at his northern border.**
- 2. Second, to humankind as a heads-up that a divine visitation would result in a Messiah being born.**

*The message for both prophecies was astounding: The symbol of mother and child is a reflection of God's strength in weakness, speaking to and overcoming power.*

## A Unique Kind of Love

- Not a sentimental love.
- Not a cheesy kind of love.
- Not the love of preference or appetite.
- **GOD WITH US ALL THE TIME!**

## Emmanuel is About Fitting into God's Plan

- Our life is not the plan—God's will is.
- Emmanuel wasn't just born for Joseph and Mary—he was born for the whole world.
- Mary and Joseph were invited into God's rescue plan.

# Emmanuel is with Us All the Time

## • Locations

In the backyard; in the front yard; in the side yard; in the country; in the city; in the garden; on the tollway and the highway; and the driveway.

## • Difficult Places

In a car accident; a recurring illness; loss of a loved one; loss of a friend; having a broken heart.

## • Uncomfortable Places

When we're in financial straits; when we're scared, frightened, and unsure.

## • Promising Places

When we get a raise or a promotion; when we get a better job; when we complete a certification or graduate.

# Emmanuel is Here to Stay

- He is not here just when we're good.
- Not just when things work out and all is well
- Here is here when we are in crisis.
- He is here when there is uncertainty, stress, and death.



**GOD IS WITH US—  
NO MATTER WHAT!**

There are no conditions or expiry dates to Emmanuel.

*Emmanuel is God with us until Christ comes again to reset the ledgers and restore justice – and love – and peace – Gods' will – the kingdom of God.*



**2023**

**JANUARY 01**

***Raise the  
Praise***

**JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE  
WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR!  
SUNDAY @ 10:00 A.M.**

**FOLLOWED BY AN**

***Open House  
at the Huerta's***

**GREAT FOOD  
SUPERB FELLOWSHIP**