

FaithBIT



All About Giving

Reflection by Brian Vik

On the corners of Immanuel's altar platform sit two banners which echo the church's and our own individual missions -- one reads "Called to Care" and the other "Sent to Serve". When we depart from church each Sunday we are told to, "Go in peace and Serve the Lord". The message to each of us? Go out and serve!

For 12 years the Lord has granted me the privilege to serve one of the ministries Immanuel supports, Cornerstone. I signed up as I enjoy this type of work - never once thinking that this would last for 12 years. I also never imagined that in serving others I would be rewarded way beyond description. The smiles and thank yous from the families we serve inspire me and remind me that the power of simple giving is amazing.



"I have come to realize that being 'called to care' is all about giving - and in doing so, you receive the gift of knowing you made a difference..."
- Brian Vik

But the real blessing is seeing my fellow members of Immanuel assist with the meal and interact with the families. Jesus taught us to care for the least of his children and to love our neighbor. I see each month how the kind actions of my Immanuel brothers and sisters help those we serve feel love and know that Jesus and his many servants care.

I have come to realize that being "called to care" is all about giving - and in doing so, you receive the gift of knowing you made a difference and that you are continuing to do the work that Lord started and expects of you. My wish and hope is to do more, as I feel that I have more to give. The weekly call to action, "serve the Lord", is a continual reminder to continue to pay forward the many blessings I have been given.