

Phyllis Sims

I am Phyllis Sims. I agreed to speak with you about our Every Member Pledge Campaign. Our campaign theme is "**Giving with a Glad and Generous Heart.**" It is so easy for Dodd and me to give regularly to Immanuel because we are so **glad** to be a part of this loving congregation. We felt welcomed from the very first visit here. Randy married us and this beautiful congregation shared in our joy. We truly feel we were led here for a purpose.

The worship experience is of utmost importance to us, and Randy and our other worship leaders provide the biblically-based reflections and encouragement, as well as the challenges we need to feed our souls and be prompted regularly to carry God's light out into the world in our thoughts, words and actions.

The **people, the leaders**, and the **programs** here at Immanuel are what we feel God has provided for us to serve in and through the world. The Pumpkin Patch, our potlucks and social gatherings of baptisms, weddings and funerals afford us a warm fellowship and camaraderie with so many loving and caring families.

Feeding the homeless at **Christ House** has provided us along with other Immanuelites an outreach opportunity to serve alongside our fellow Catholic brothers and sisters which is very meaningful for us. We are **grateful** to be able to help spread God's love and strengthen our faith through this action. Immanuel has provided that for us.

We feel extremely grateful for the connection of Immanuel to **Virginia Theological Seminary**. We, as a congregation, have benefited so richly from the seminarians who serve us in so many ways. How fortunate we are --- so **glad**.

To **pledge** is a big deal to us!! (Not just putting money in the offering plate.) We are asked to give of our time, talent and **treasure**."

Pledging is saying, "You love God and this church."

Pledging is saying, "I am blessed by the worship, people and programs of this church."

Pledging says, "You can count on me and my household to share our treasure with Immanuel to further God's mission and the growth and strengthening of my faith in God as gratitude and thanksgiving.

Pledging is a commitment for accountability.

Please sign a pledge card to say, "I am going to be **generous** in sharing my monetary blessings with Immanuel because God has blessed me and Immanuel has blessed me and continues to bless me and others in so many ways.

Dodd and I believe **God is at work here at Immanuel** and we never know when God will touch someone who comes to Immanuel not only to worship, but any time. Our Pumpkin Patch truck drivers have told us they ask for this job each year because they feel the love and caring you all exude for one another and them personally, and the good the proceeds from the Patch provide to our extensive outreach communities. I believe that is God at work. What a testimonial.

Please **commit** to the furthering of Immanuel's goals of spreading God's love and strengthening his people to carry His mission forward.

Please **pray** to help us all realize how valuable our regular, committed giving is to God's work here on earth through Immanuel Church on the Hill.