Orlando 2027 InterVarsity Staff Conference, IA ministry team

General summary: As many of you already know, InterVarsity is now using the Immanuel Approach as their primary approach for prayer ministry. Just as with Urbana 2022 and Staff Conference 2024, InterVarsity is inviting volunteers to come and facilitate Immanuel Approach prayer ministry available with their staff team.

InterVarsity holds it's Staff Conference once-every-three-years. Our goal is to provide Immanuel Approach sessions for as many of these 1400 staff at the conference as possible. Our current (Oct 2026) target is 100 ministry volunteers who actually make it to Orlando (which means 110 to 120 registered). InterVarsity will provide most meals, a room that will be used for prayer ministry and for daily gatheringsVolunteers will need to cover their own travel and lodging expenses (InterVarsity will be providing most of the meals), so this will be a big gift to InterVarsity. Peter and I are expecting that this will be another super-spreader event for the Immanuel Approach.

Orlando 2024 Staff Conference Website: https://sc27.intervarsity.org/

Questions to Peter Horton: I will be in Orlando to lead the Immanuel Approach volunteers and the unofficial IA conference, but Peter will be taking care of logistics, practical concerns, and everything else, so please send questions to him (peter.horton@intervarsity.org). NOTE: Peter does much better with text than email, so he asks that if you want to send a longer message by email, make sure to also send a text (608 217-5198) to alert him re the text. And make sure to identify yourself in the text.

Requirements for ministry volunteers:

Facilitate Immanuel Approach sessions: Hopefully everyone is already assuming this. But just to provide maximum clarity: We are expecting that all volunteers will be committed to facilitating Immanuel Approach sessions, as opposed to providing other forms of ministry or therapy.

Immanuel Approach as Dr. Lehman teaches it: I am aware that many ministries have made slight changes to adapt the process to fit best in their particular setting. This is expected and acceptable. However, please do not use a version that is dramatically different from what I teach. For example, the "Pass the Peace" version, developed by Dr. Wilder and Life Model Works for certain extreme situations, would be confusing to IVCF staff who are familiar with my training. (For additional discussion of the Pass the Peace version, see my essay on this topic at the bottom of the Special Subjects/Advanced Topics section of the Resources page on www.immanuelapproach.com)

At least basic training plus 20 sessions: We are expecting many volunteers with intermediate-advanced training and hundreds/thousands of hours of experience, and these experienced volunteers will be MOST welcome. But you are also welcome to participate if you have at least been through full basic training (includes working with traumatic memories, as opposed to the "Lite" version that just goes to the point of connecting with Jesus), and have facilitated at least twenty actual IA sessions that included working with traumatic memories.

General Information

Dates Sat Jan 2- Tues Jan 5, 2025

Location: Rosen Center Hotel, Orland, FL (this is close to Disney and Paramount Studios).

***Orientation*:** A virtual orientation will take place in December where we will review the schedule and process together and answer your questions.

Arrival: Check-in with InterVarsity is 12:00 to 5:00 Saturday Jan 2nd afternoon. If at all possible, try to hit this window. (Late check-ins will be a significant hassle for the IVCF team.) InterVarsity supplies dinner Saturday evening and there will be an IA gathering after dinner. InterVarsity supplies breakfast Sunday morning and there will be two IA conference sessions after breakfast. ***Absolute deadline for late arrivals:*** We need to be at the conference center by 1pm Eastern on Sunday the 3rd so that we can all be ready to start prayer at 2pm.

Registration: Registration has been extended through the first week of November. Registration link: https://natstaffconf.events.intervarsity.org/staffcon2027

IA Conference: There will be several sessions each day for our unofficial Immanuel Approach conference. Will send more details as we have them.

IA Prayer: Sessions will be scheduled mornings and afternoon (details still evolving). Staff will sign up for 60 min sessions. We are expecting that for most ministry blocks, every volunteer will be scheduled.

Expenses: As with previous InterVarsity Immanuel Approach adventures, volunteers will need to cover all of their own travel and lodging expenses. The good news is that InterVarsity will be providing many of our meals for Orlando 2027 volunteers. The meals provided are listed on the schedule.

Travel: If you're flying into Orlando you will need to get an Uber or Taxi from the airport to the Rosen Centre. It is about a 20 minute drive. If you are driving there is a fee for parking. We also recommend that you purchase refundable and changeable tickets if you choose to purchase them before registration opens.

***Housing**:* The conference will be held at Rosen Centre Hotel, in Orlando FL. Rooms are $135/night ($135 includes discount provided by registering through InterVarsity). Note that you can cut costs by sharing a room, to a max of 4 people per room. Also, sharing a room with one or more other IA volunteers helps with space crunch for the conference.

NOTE: The problem with staying Jan 5th night has been resolved, so no need to find alternate accomodations if you're staying in Orlando Jan 5th.

Meal Options: Most meals will be provided by InterVarsity: For the several that aren't, eating at the hotel is maximally convenient, but also maximally expensive. It's much cheaper to make alternative arrangements and either bring your own food or eat a restaurants nearby. (Charlotte and I will definitely be making alternative arrangements – bringing our own food, eating at nearby restaurants.) Also, InterVarsity will only be able to provide these meals for ministry team volunteers. (So if you have a +1 traveling with you, they will need to make other arrangments for these meals).

Zoom Option?: There will not be an online/zoom option for providing ministry to staff during the conference. Just more than we can put together. (To those who have been asking about this: we appreciate the offer – love your hearts. 😊)

Miscellaneous: The hotel has a beautiful pool – bring your swim suits.