November Spotlight
Anita Laryea

Our spotlight this month is shining on Anita Laryea – another of our parishioners who helps out in so many ways at Immanuel, sharing her time and talents.

On the first Sunday of each month, you can find Anita in the sound booth at the back of the church, where she runs the pro-presenter which displays the service on the screens in the sanctuary. She often helps with the summer vacation Bible school (VBS), at Sunday School, and occasionally the "Vacation Days Off School" on public holidays.

She is a member of Immanuel's Welcoming Committee. This group takes pleasure in welcoming visitors to Immanuel, inviting them to fellowship after the service, and following up with them if they wish to find out more information about the parish.

Anita was born in Accra, Ghana where she lived until she emigrated to Canada at the age of 24. Her father died when she was 18, but her mother still lives in Ghana. It was on the recommendation of one of her professors that she should come to Canada to further her education. She attended Grad school in Edmonton, AB. She and her future husband Essouassi Elikem were course mates during their undergraduate studies. He also came to graduate school in Saskatchewan, and she followed him to Saskatoon, eventually moving to Regina in 2019, when she was offered employment with the Ministry of Agriculture as a senior data analyst in policy branch. She moved to Trade and Value-Added branch in 2023 where her work involves working with the international offices, international engagement, and industry associations on trade.

Anita and Essouassi were married at Immanuel in April, 2022 and have a 20-month-old daughter, Estelle, who keeps them busy. Anita says she used to read a lot, but after the birth of her baby, reading time is very limited! But she does take time to keep fit, taking classes in Zumba and Body Combat (which includes boxing, tai chi and taekwondo to music!).

In spite of being a busy mother, we are lucky that Anita finds time to share her time with us at Immanuel. Thank you, Anita, for all that you do!