

THE ALMOND TREE

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann Faeth
Rector

January 25, 2012



Beloved in Christ,

It is with a heavy heart that I have come to the conclusion that my health will not permit me to continue to serve as your rector with the energy, attentiveness and presence that you deserve. This hard decision was made over the course of several months with the support and advice of my medical team and my family. The experts at Vanderbilt have determined that the Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome from which I suffer is very unlikely to improve and that my quality of life will be better when I have the freedom to rest at will and to spend more of my time in the reclining position.

My love for you and the ministry that we share at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill has caused me to delay this decision longer than my doctors preferred. I needed to know that I had tried all available medications, treatments and accommodations before I accepted this painful reality. I am profoundly grateful for the tenderness, kindness and patience you have shown over the years, and particularly in the past year and a half of my illness.

My final Sunday will be February 5th. I will be on limited office time for the next two weeks, then out of the office on accrued vacation and sabbatical through the end of April. Bishop Johnston and the diocesan staff have been very supportive and your senior warden, Tom Kerns, is working closely with them to obtain the services of an interim rector and to begin the new search process.

I have made arrangements to hand over all scheduled, upcoming pastoral services, such as weddings and baptisms. There is an established protocol for leaving a pastoral cure, which means that I cannot come back to marry you, or baptize your children or bury you. I will no longer be your priest and pastor but I can remain your friend. I am permitted to accept invitations to your special events, as a guest, and to rejoice or mourn with you from the pews.

The Good News of God's love for us is the truth that shapes my days, my dreams and my hopes. It is the certainty that consoles me in sorrow and confusion. Leaving you will be one of the most difficult things I have ever done and yet my prevailing emotion is one of gratitude. I thank God for each of you, for the privilege of serving as your priest these past sixteen years, and for the love we share in Jesus' name. I am confident that that love and the mission and ministry that express it will continue into a bright future.

With my love, gratitude and blessing,

Sam+

The Rev. Margaret Ann Faeth, Ph.D.
Rector

PASTORAL CARE CORNER Please remember these parishioners in your prayers: Kimberly, Duncan MacDonald, Morgan, Lloyd Mostrom, Nancy Wise, Bobbie King, Marcia, Tom Murray, Janet Siegrist, Becky Graham, Mary, Annie, Catherine Sinclair, Sam Faeth, Sky Beaven, Chris Stanek, Jessi Macleod, Yvonne Pover, Ethel Hoffman, Margaret Messenger Kerekes, Linda Murphy, Sally Guy Brown.

Pease also remember in your prayers members of our extended Parish family: Joan Aldretti, Doris Allen, Robert Amick, Karen Beattie, Mike Black, Tim Boyd, Cardiss Collins, Doris Doyle, Gene Gray, Lucas Hawley, Mary Lou Johnson, Dean and Charlotte Kellogg, Tennille Littleton, Chris Rarick, Sue Rehnke, Lucien Russell, Susan Shallbetter, June Sheets, Ellen Shreve, Cheryl Stratos, Suzanne Tellechea, Alexander Droneberger, Tom Stasz, Denise Boucher, Eleanor Boothe Smith, Bill Rarick, Wilson Carter, Biruta Kelly, Jeff Kucine, Mimi Evans, Stephen Miller, Chuck, Jim Rarick, Irv Schiff., Dan Abeyta, Butch Lovette, Shelby, Scott, Mikeala Stevens, Barbara Read, Jim Pearson, Joyce Faeth, Mary Goeser, Patricia Ryan, Bob Davies, Patricia Smith, Josie Guardipee, Clinton Ross Fitzgerald, Helen Butler, Wally and Gerry Clinton, Judy Wagner and her family, Millie and Ray Dovell.

Pray for those who have died: Ron Jeko, friend of Marcus Rarick; Russ Murphy. Iola Chenoweth, aunt of Susan Gilbertson, Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Serving our country at home and abroad: : Todd Bates, Paul Bednar, Tom and Anne Duffy, Philip Smucker., Ian Phillips, Kyle Stuart, Liza Conrad, Jason Zook, the Chaplains of the 173rd Airborne.

WHAT'S THE SECRET TO BEING FOREVER YOUNG? Becoming a Youth Group Leader, of course! ICOH's Youth Group is looking for several more adults (women *and* men) who are young at heart, if not in age, that can assist with facilitating our bi-weekly meetings after the 10am service. No experience is necessary, other than some creative juices, an interest in engaging our youth in meaningful discussion and activities, and a desire to support the youth in our parish on their journey toward adulthood. Youth leaders share facilitation responsibilities, so the time commitment is very reasonable. If you are interested, contact one of our current youth leaders: Jeannie Cummins Eisenhour, Jennifer Ashline, Will Packard or Jennie Reading. Or, email the church office at jaddington@icoh.net. Our winter/spring session starts on February 5th, so let us know soon!

A MONETARY "PURSE" FOR SAM: On Sunday the 5th of February as part of our celebration for Sam's ministry the vestry will present her a "PURSE" as a gesture of our love and appreciation. . If you would like to contribute please send a separate check to the office designated as a "Gift for Sam". **Please note that as this is an individual gift, it will not be reflected on your giving statement, and is not tax deductible.**

FORUM HOUR - SUNDAY, JANUARY 29: REPORT FROM DIOCESAN COUNCIL AND CONVERSATION WITH SAM: Our clergy and lay delegates will be representing ICOH at diocesan council in Reston this week. Sunday's forum hour will include their report on the proceedings and some time to chat with Sam about whatever is on your mind.

STATUS OF AN INTERIM PRIEST:

We have received excellent guidance from the Diocesan Deployment office about finding the most appropriate interim Rector. The vestry will meet with their representatives next week. An experienced interim rector has special skills and training. This person will be our interim rector until a new permanent rector is hired after a search process. The search process should take a minimum of one year. It is important not to rush, but to find the most appropriate interim for our unique parish. Best, Tom Kerns

GRACE CHURCH LENTEN SPIRITUAL RETREAT On Saturday, March 3, Grace Church will host a day of reflection and prayer with renowned priest, author, and retreat leader, Fr. Martin Smith. Fr. Smith will invite participants to "heed to the voice of the Christian martyrs, recalling us to the personal adventure of intimacy with God. Christianity is not a message or a set of beliefs but an experience." Parishioners of all Alexandria Churches are welcome to take advantage of this retreat, which will take place Saturday, March 3, in Merrow Hall at Grace Church, 3601 Russell Road, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Continental breakfast and lunch are included in the \$35 fee. You can register at the Grace Church web site: <http://www.gracealex.org/Events/EventView.asp?EventID=15634>



**ECW Diocese of Virginia
Lenten Quiet Day**

Thursday, March 29, 2012

9:30 am to 4:00 pm

**The Virginia Diocesan Center at Roslyn
8727 River Road
Richmond, Virginia**

“Blessed Are They Who See”

Led by The Rev. Canon Susan Goff

Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Virginia

A Lenten Quiet Day with the Women Followers of Jesus

Open to all adults.

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ECW Lenten Quiet Day, March 29, 2012

Cost: \$30 (includes coffee, snacks, and lunch). Make check payable to ECW Diocese of Virginia.

Please use a separate form for each person. Lenten Quiet Day is open to men and women.

Name _____

Complete Address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Church & Location _____

Mail to: Bryn Roth, 108 Sleepy Hollow Trail, Fredericksburg, VA 22405

For more information please contact Bryn at brynroth@cox.net or (540) 373-9126.

Please register by March 14.

Blessed Are They Who See:

A Lenten Quiet Day with the Women Followers of Jesus

Lenten Quiet Day is open to all adults!

Through scripture, music, meditations and silence, we will walk with the women who followed Jesus from Galilee, to the foot of the cross, to the empty tomb. Dress comfortably. Bring your Bible. Bring your journal, if you use one. Bring your friends! Come walk with the faithful who are seeking in Lent to follow the Way that leads from life through death to life again. Lunch, snacks, and Eucharist are included in our day together. The program is based on the female followers of Jesus. Men are welcome to attend.

The Rev. Canon Susan Goff

The Rev. Canon Susan Goff joined the Bishop's staff as Canon to the Ordinary in January 2010. Canon Goff oversees the day-to-day supervision of various Episcopal ministries, including discernment and ordination processes for the diocese; misconduct prevention and responses; and the transition process for clergy and congregations. Canon Goff came to the diocesan staff from St. Christopher's, Springfield, where she served as rector for 15 years. In addition to her work at St. Christopher's, she served as an adjunct instructor in liturgics at Virginia Theological Seminary. Prior to St. Christopher's, Canon Goff served as rector at Immanuel, Old Church, as chaplain of St. Catherine's School, Richmond, and as chaplain of St. Margaret's School, Tappahannock. Canon Goff is married to The Rev. C. Thomas Holliday, an interim ministry specialist who has served numerous churches in the Diocese of Virginia.

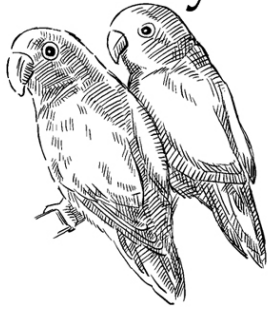
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KNITTING FOR ORPHANS - If you are knitting warm items for the orphans at Pro-Vita orphanage in Romania, please complete them and bring them to church by Sunday, February 26. Our delivery team - a group of student missionaries from St. Stephen and St. Agnes School- will be heading to Romania in March.

<p>CONGRATULATIONS...TO US! We have just learned that out of 1207 churches nationwide who participate in the Pumpkin Patch, that this year Immanuel Church on the Hill came in #2!</p>

ALIVE! FOOD PROGRAM. Thanks to everyone who has made donations, either by bringing food and/or writing a check. We'll be collecting food through February 5th. Donations may be left in the box in the Narthex; there are lists of specially needed items there, too. Checks may be made payable to ICOH with a notation for the Aive! Food Program.

February



02/01 Greg Thompson
02/02 Jim Luft
02/02 Kelli Thompson
02/02 Caroline Conrad
02/03 Josephine Forster
02/03 Gabriella Young-Smith
02/04 Harry Graef
02/04 John Wagner
02/05 Llewellyn Kriel
02/06 Jean Peyton
02/06 Susan Kernan
02/06 Linda Greene
02/06 Tom Cuddy
02/07 Mary Mitchell
02/08 Mary Latif
02/08 Diana Page
02/08 John Bellais
02/09 Aggie Fortune
02/11 Susan Kilpatrick
02/11 Jackie Bednarz
02/11 Laurie Scheible
02/12 Karen Besser
02/12 Kelly Maynard
02/12 Quinn Chapman
02/12 Sophia Johnson
02/13 Peter Brodhead
02/14 Julien Randolph
02/14 Jeanne Moore
02/14 Kristina Brown
02/15 Caroline Bergmark
02/15 Katherine Hussey
02/15 Isabel Frye
02/15 Saana Sexton
02/16 Virginia Byron
02/17 Allen Smith
02/17 Henry Page
02/18 Sue Hurn

02/19 Rollin Huntington
02/19 Pierre Shostal
02/19 Mary Ann Sutherland
02/19 Evelyn Hickey
02/19 Katie Gasparek
02/19 Steven Knight
02/20 Dan Stewart
02/20 Margaret Chambers
02/20 Rafa Naoum
02/21 Frank Carter
02/21 Kenneth Ross
02/21 William Latimer
02/21 Elly Parks
02/22 Bob Feden
02/22 Denise Freeland
02/22 Teddy Yates
02/22 Bart Johnson
02/23 Susan Cavanaugh
02/23 Sarah Clement
02/23 John Bednar
02/24 Thomas Hussey
02/24 Kathy Lloyd
02/24 Spencer Wise
02/24 Sarah Kell
02/26 Susan Wiard
02/26 Jan Campbell
02/26 Betsy DeMulder
02/28 Len Lynch
02/28 Mary Taylor
02/28 Grace Albritton
02/28 Juliet Houck
02/29 Bruce Morton

O Lord, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness at the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We hope never to miss a birthday – but there are some we don't know about. Forgive us when we do miss your birthday, and let us know so we don't do it again. Happy birthday to all!

FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:00 AM HE-I, Zabriskie 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:05 AM Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist I, Chapel	30 11:00 AM Qi gong, Parish Hall 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM Yoga, Parish Hall	31	1 6:30 AM Early Christians, Fairchild 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall	2 7:30 PM Choir, Choir Room 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Discernment Group, Vestry Room 7:30 PM Pastoral Care, Fairchild Room	3 TAT deadline 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:30 PM Muslim Worship, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Philomela Rehearsal, Choir Room 8:30 PM AA, Fairchild	4 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dignity, Zabriskie
5 8:00 AM HE-I, Zabriskie 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:05 AM Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II, Chapel 11:30 AM Youth Group, Fairchild Room	6 11:00 AM Qi gong, Parish Hall 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM Yoga, Parish Hall	7 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Benedictine Community, Vestry Room, Undercroft	8 TAT Mailing 6:30 AM Early Christians, Fairchild 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:00 PM Goodwin House luncheon	9 7:30 PM Choir, Choir Room 7:30 PM Seminary Hill Association, Parish Hall	10 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:30 PM Muslim Worship, Parish Hall 8:30 PM AA, Fairchild	11 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dignity, Zabriskie
12 8:00 AM HE-I, Zabriskie 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:05 AM Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II, Chapel	13 11:00 AM Qi gong, Parish Hall 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM Yoga, Parish Hall	14 12:00 PM Goodwin House luncheon 6:30 PM Vestry, Vestry Room	15 6:30 AM Early Christians, Fairchild 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall	16 7:30 PM Choir, Choir Room	17 TAT deadline 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:30 PM Muslim Worship, Parish Hall 8:30 PM AA, Fairchild	18 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dignity, Zabriskie
19 8:00 AM HE-I, Zabriskie 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:05 AM Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room 9:15 AM Forum Hour, New Chapel 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist II, Chapel 11:30 AM Youth Group, Fairchild Room	20 11:00 AM Qi gong, Parish Hall 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM Yoga, Parish Hall	21 SHROVE TUESDAY 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Parish Hall 6:30 PM Knitting Group, Fairchild Room 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Benedictine Community, Vestry Room, Undercroft	22 Ash Wednesday TAT Mailing 6:30 AM Early Christians, Fairchild 7:30 AM HE/Ashes 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:00 PM HE/Ashes 7:30 PM HE/Ashes	23 7:30 PM Choir, Choir Room	24 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:30 PM Muslim Worship, Parish Hall 8:30 PM AA, Fairchild	25 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dignity, Zabriskie
26 Lent 1 8:00 AM HE-I, Zabriskie 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:05 AM Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist I, Chapel	27 11:00 AM Qi gong, Parish Hall 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM Yoga, Parish Hall	28	29 6:30 AM Early Christians, Fairchild 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall	1 7:30 PM Choir, Choir Room 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Discernment Group, Vestry Room	2 8:20 AM - 11:35 AM Senior Exercise Classes, Parish Hall 12:30 PM Muslim Worship, Parish Hall 8:30 PM AA, Fairchild	3 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dignity, Zabriskie

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 21, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 22, Ash Wednesday services, Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

Details will be forthcoming.

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, VA 22304
703-370-6555
office@icoh.net
<http://www.icoh>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Lectionary Readings and
Schedule of Services



January 29, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28
8:00 a.m., HE I, 10:00 a.m., HEI

February 5, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

2 Kings 4:18-21, 32-37; Psalm 142; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
8:00 a.m., HEI; 10:00 a.m., HEII

February 12, Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

2 Kings 5:1-15ab, Psalm 42; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45
8:00 a.m., HEI; 10:00 a.m., HEII