

# THE ALMOND TREE

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill



April 25, 2012

## FIND A TIME TO JOIN MARY FOR CONVERSATION

Our Interim Rector Mary Sulerud arrives "on campus" April 30th, eager to learn more about us and where we would like to be headed in the years ahead. To that end, the Vestry and Mary have organized a series of May forum hours (held 9 to 9:50 a.m., between the Sunday services).

Additionally, Mary will offer a new School for the Spirit class to those interested during the final three Wednesday nights of School for the Spirit's spring semester (on May 9, 16 and 23). The class will be an open discussion of topics that are close and important to ICOH parishioners during this transitional period, including change, journeys and expectations great and small. Her class will build on Sunday forum hour discussions. School for the Spirit dinner starts at 7 p.m., followed by a brief meditation and then classes starting at 8 p.m. If you know that you want to participate, please email or call Jennifer Addington in the parish office so we can get a better headcount for dinner (you don't need to attend dinner). But even if you can't yet make a commitment but think you might be interested, feel free to just show up for dinner (at 7) and discussion (at 8) on those dates. This is a wonderful opportunity for Mary and ICOH parishioners to get to know each other in a relaxed small-group dinner and discussion format.

All are welcome! We hope you will mark your calendars for these dates:

**SUNDAY, MAY 6: "Eat, Drink & Meet Mary"** — a festive reception to welcome our new Interim Rector, learn a little bit about her and her ties to Alexandria and VTS. This will be held between the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services, so 10 o'clockers, plan to come early.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 9:** Small-group session about the differences between change and transition.

**SUNDAY, MAY 13:** Forum hour on Change: When in our lives have we lived through significant change? Our stories of beginnings and endings, and when life will be normal again.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 16:** Small group discussion of Change, continued.

**SUNDAY, MAY 20:** Forum hour on Thinking about Immanuel in Transition: Our great expectations and our smaller ones, what it means to be in the wilderness as a congregation and letting go of the past in order to make our way forward.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 23:** Small group discussion of Immanuel in Transition, continued.

**SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, MAY 26 & 27:** Shrine Mont weekend, an informal discussion of change and transition for those attending the parish retreat weekend in Orkney Springs.

We will soon start the process of searching for a new rector, and in just a few years, we will have a glorious new Immanuel chapel, a second space in which to worship. Come join the conversation about our visions for ICOH and our next leader.

Your Wardens & Vestry

**PASTORAL CARE CORNER:** Please remember

**these parishioners in your prayers:** Duncan MacDonald, Morgan, Lloyd Mostrom, Nancy Wise, Bobbie King, Marcia, Tom Murray, Janet Siegrist, Mary, Annie, Catherine Sinclair, Jessi Macleod, Yvonne Pover, Margaret Messenger Kerekes, Linda Murphy, Sally Guy Brown, Barbara Fornoff, Mary Goeser, Christine Michaelis, Linda Donahue, Chris Stanek, Dana Hengst, Mei-Lung DeVight, Bobbi Thomas.

**Please also remember in your prayers** members of our extended Parish family: Joan Aldretti, Tim Boyd, Mary Lou Johnson, Dean and Charlotte Kellogg, Tennille Littleton, Chris Rarick, Susan Shallbetter, June Sheets, Ellen Shreve, Tom Stasz, Bob Davies, Eleanor Boothe Smith, Bill Rarick, Stephen Miller, Jim Rarick, Irv Schiff, Jim Pearson, Patricia Smith, Josie Guardipee, Helen Butler, Sam Faeth, Bill Nations, Lawrence Sanchez, Paul, Joan Cummins, Eric Reading, Sr., Cameron, Will Williams, Dylan Rehnke, Sue Rehnke, Margaret Corbett, Laurie Trost.

**Serving our country at home and abroad:** Todd Bates, Paul Bednar, Tom and Anne Duffy, Ian Phillips, Liza Conrad.

**GRACE AND GRATITUDE:** The Garden team appreciates and thanks all working to renew our gardens April 14th. **Rick Glassco, Pierre Shostal, Andy Biache, Tom Kerns, Stuart Dahlinger, George Currie, Barbara Currie, Laura Snow, Mary Jo Cooney and Chris von Schoening.**

**NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE:** The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia is pleased to announce that the Rev. Canon Susan E. Goff was elected as bishop Suffragan of Virginia at a special Electing Council of the Diocese held on Saturday, April 21 at St. George's, Fredericksburg.

Goff was elected on the fourth ballot, with 148 votes in the clerical order and 164 votes in the lay order.

**The Rev. Deacon Linda Murphy, Eve Anderson, Alisa Biache and Bob Murray represented ICOH at the election.**

A suffragan is a bishop elected by a diocese to assist the diocesan bishop. The bishop suffragan elect will be consecrated on July 28 at St. Paul's, Richmond, pending consents of the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in early July.

**PARISHIONERS IN THE NEWS**

Congratulations to Pumpkin Lady Emeritus Wendy John, Senior Warden Tom Kerns and Treasurer Marcus Rarick for recent honors!

**Wendy** was one of 12 Alexandrians who were named "Living Legends" for their good works and leadership in our city. ***Take one big guess what activity Wendy has led that produced thousands of dollars of support for local charities such as ALIVE, Carpenter's Shelter, Community Lodging and more over the past 18 years?*** She and the other Legends were feted in March at a grand reception, and their portraits by local photographer Nina Tisara are on display at City Hall. Look for an article about Wendy in an upcoming issue of the *Alexandria Gazette Packet*, co-sponsor with Tisara of the annual Living Legends event.

**Tom** is our very own architect of sacred spaces extraordinaire, and now the Kerns Group Architects has been selected to design a new 1,000-seat cathedral complex in Port au Prince, Haiti. The 2010 earthquake destroyed the 1920s-era Holy Trinity, the diocesan offices, the bishop's residence and adjacent church school. The new Episcopal Church complex will be self sufficient in terms of electricity, waste management and water so it may become a safe haven for thousands in times of future emergencies. Tom's professional life is just one more example of ICOH's links to Haitian recovery efforts, like the Haiti Micah Project led by parishioner and VTS faculty member the Rev. **Joseph Constant** and supported by our Outreach funds.

**Marcus**, along with fellow Washington National Cathedral volunteers, was honored at a special Evensong on April 11, where the Reverend Dr. Francis Wade, interim dean and ICOH parishioner, officiated and the Reverend Canon Mary Sulerud, ICOH interim rector, served as cantor.

For the past five years, Marcus has been a mainstay of the volunteer corps, ushering at numerous Cathedral concerts and helping with special events.

**TO WELCOME OUR INTERIM RECTOR:**

The Committee and Nurturing Stewards would welcome any offers of help with the reception for our new Interim Rector, Mary Sulerud, on May 6th. If you are able to assist, please send an e-mail to Mary-Jo.Cooney@comcast.net or call her at 703.212.8442.

## **ICOH MEN'S ANNUAL FISHING TRIP:**

Ahoy, men of Immanuel. The date of this year's Annual Immanuel Men's Group's rock fishing expedition is **Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**. As in the past, our fishing boat(s) will be departing that morning at sunup from Deale, Maryland (about one hour from DC/Alexandria). Also as in the past, we'll be gathering the evening before (Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>) at the Herrington Harbour Inn (located nearby the boat launch site) for our traditional manly meal and a good night's sleep. We have secured our usual two boats (the "Loosen' Up" and "Miss Grace") and I have reserved a block of rooms in my name at the Herrington Harbour Inn. You can contact me by e-mail ([djohn@jhenergy.com](mailto:djohn@jhenergy.com)), phone (703-751-9238) or in person at Church. I can provide you more information on cost, schedule, etc. *Doug John*

**HONORING OUR GRADUATES:** Are you or a member of your family graduating from high school or college/university this spring? Please send the details to Jennifer in the parish office so that all our graduates can be recognized in an upcoming edition of The Almond Tree.

**THE ICOH MOM'S GROUP** will be meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> in the Fairchild Room. Moms, many of you have expressed a strong interest in getting the ICOH Mom's Group up and running again. You are a crucial part of this endeavor and your feedback at this meeting is essential in planning the scheduling and structure of the ICOH Mom's Group meetings. Please join us and bring a snack and/or beverage to share. **Got questions? Contact Ashlei Pujara at [rupal99@yahoo.com](mailto:rupal99@yahoo.com) or 703-379-9296.**

**THE ANNUAL STEP ALIVE! WALKATHON** is May 6 at 2:00 p.m. The 5-mile walk begins and ends at the Alive Child Development Center at First Christian Church, 2723 King Street. After the race, participants will enjoy a picnic and music by Taste of Bluegrass Band. Register at [www.alive-inc.org](http://www.alive-inc.org) or at the event on May 6<sup>th</sup>. If you don't want to walk, sign up on-line as a "virtual walker". Registration fees are \$10 for ages 19-70; \$5.00 for ages 12-18. Walkers over 70 and children under 12 are free, but must register. ICOH Sunday School children will walk after the 10:00 a.m. service. The names of all corporate sponsors will be printed on the race t-shirts. Sponsorship levels range from \$200 to \$2,500+. Call Mary Bruce Batte at 703 399 9124 if you would like to be a sponsor.



## **ORAL RE-HYDRATION THERAPY JOINT PROJECT WITH TEMPLE BETH EL WAS A GREAT**

**SUCCESS:** For the fifth year in a row, Immanuel Church on the Hill was an official, full partner with Temple Beth El in fabricating packets which international relief organizations send to scenes of natural or man-made disasters where they are urgently needed and save lives. This year, the "big event" took place on April 22. Again, everyone who showed up (see photo) was utilized in measuring ingredients and pouring them into dental packets. ICOH used Outreach funds raised at the Pumpkin Patch to buy the packets. The Temple acquired the dry ingredients and provided the space, utensils & logistics for the assembly of the packets. On two Wednesday evenings in March about 25 parishioners helped fold the ingredients lists which are included with the packets. This year we prepared a total of 19,475 packets. The joys of this project include its ecumenical nature of partnering with our good neighbor, Temple Beth El, and the proven value of the packets which have helped reduce deaths of infants, children, and adults from severe de-hydration often caused by diarrhea from polluted drinking water. ORT is relatively simple, inexpensive, and knits us together with our neighbors nearby and those whose lives are saved around the world. Thanks to everyone who participated.





## Birthdays

05/01 Gordon Johnson  
05/01 Mark Loach  
05/01 Jessica Turner  
05/01 Sharon Brown  
05/01 Alyssa Johnson  
05/01 Laura Sullivan  
05/01 Laura Good  
05/01 Tatum Amato  
05/01 Brian Moran  
05/02 Thomas Harris  
05/03 Elizabeth Eckert  
05/03 Jacko Post  
05/03 Brodin Boit  
05/04 Linda Serabian  
05/05 Chandley McDonald  
05/05 Megan Glassco  
05/05 Madison Eaton  
05/06 Michael Duane  
05/06 Andy Biache  
05/06 Benjamin Arp  
05/07 Michael Konvalinka  
05/07 Thomas Wirth  
05/07 Phoebe LaMountain  
05/08 Sheila Iskra  
05/08 Anne Patton  
05/10 Margaret Coleman  
05/10 Marisa Temoshok  
05/12 Susanne Wanamaker  
05/12 Dick Taliaferro  
05/12 Everett Post  
05/12 Jenny Reading  
05/13 Marian Wright  
05/13 Adrienne Goins  
05/13 Autella Gasperek  
05/13 Zachary Cohn  
05/14 Jim Taylor  
05/14 Jasmine Tyler  
05/14 Will Toman  
05/15 Evan Johnson  
05/15 Paul Blakeslee  
05/16 Caitlin DeMulder  
05/17 Max Rotermund  
05/18 Mike McGahuey  
05/18 Louisa Hurley

05/18 Karen Wirth  
05/18 Geoffrey Henderson  
05/19 Louisa Trigg  
05/19 Rick Rath  
05/19 Robin Eckert  
05/19 Evan Drennon  
05/20 Shirley Dols  
05/20 Dylan Paul  
05/21 Benjamin Bridges  
05/21 Caroline Hobson  
05/21 Samuel Wirth  
05/22 Agnes Soos  
05/22 Susan Hobson  
05/22 Leif Siegrist  
05/22 Alexandra Kelley  
05/22 Charles Kinsella  
05/23 Elizabeth Casey  
05/23 Roger Gildersleeve  
05/24 David John  
05/24 Dave Reiner  
05/24 Elizabeth Scheible  
05/24 Brian Latimer  
05/24 Rachel Wilson  
05/24 Rayna Johnson  
05/25 Donna Paul  
05/25 Keane Phillips  
05/26 Margaret Powell  
05/26 Anna Skubel  
05/27 Joan Palmer  
05/27 Timothy Kinsella  
05/28 Patsy Rogers  
05/28 Macon Malone  
05/29 Christian Kautz-Scanavy  
05/30 Kristin John  
05/31 Deborah Drennon  
05/31 Rachel Manson

*Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, keeping them unspotted from the world. Strengthen them then they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all 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!

## MAY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> HE-I, Zabriskie <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>9:05 AM</b> Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room <b>10:00 AM</b> Holy Eucharist I <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> Youth Clay Class <b>11:30 AM</b> Youth Group <b>3:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b> Convivium concert, <b>4:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b> Randi Rowe discernment group, Fairchild Room	<b>30</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Qi gong, Parish Hall <b>7:30 PM - 8:45 PM</b> Yoga, Parish Hall	<b>1</b> <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Benedictine Community, Vestry Room, Undercroft	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Early Christians, Fairchild <b>7:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> School for the Spirit	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir, Choir Room <b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Discernment Group, Vestry Room	<b>4</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Muslim Worship, Parish Hall <b>8:30 PM</b> AA, Fairchild	<b>5</b> <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Dignity, Zabriskie
<b>6</b> Mary Sulerud first Sunday <b>8:00 AM</b> HE-I, Zabriskie <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>9:05 AM</b> Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room <b>10:00 AM</b> Holy Eucharist II/Baptism <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> Youth Clay Class	<b>7</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Qi gong, Parish Hall <b>7:30 PM - 8:45 PM</b> Yoga, Parish Hall	<b>8</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Goodwin House Luncheon <b>6:30 PM</b> Vestry, Vestry Room	<b>9</b> TAT Mailing <b>6:30 AM</b> Early Christians, Fairchild <b>7:00 PM</b> Mary Sulerud class on transitions <b>7:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> School for the Spirit	<b>10</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir, Choir Room <b>7:30 PM</b> Seminary Hill Association, Parish Hall	<b>11</b> TAT deadline <b>12:30 PM</b> Muslim Worship, Parish Hall <b>8:30 PM</b> AA, Fairchild	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> HE-I, Zabriskie <b>9:00 AM</b> Forum Hour, Mary Sulerud <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>9:05 AM</b> Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room <b>10:00 AM</b> Holy Eucharist II, Chapel <b>11:30 AM</b> Youth Group	<b>14</b> <b>7:30 PM - 8:45 PM</b> Yoga, Parish Hall	<b>15</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Knitting Group, 1823 Pub/VTS <b>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Benedictine Community, Vestry Room, Undercroft	<b>16</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Early Christians, Fairchild <b>9:00 AM</b> TAT mailing <b>7:00 PM</b> Mary Sulerud class on transitions <b>7:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> School for the Spirit	<b>17</b> Eckert decorating in Parish Hall <b>8:30 AM</b> Saints in Prayer, Fairchild Room <b>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</b> Parking for VTS commencement <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir, Choir Room <b>7:00 PM</b> Moms Group, Fairchild Room	<b>18</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Eckert wedding rehearsal <b>8:30 PM</b> AA, Fairchild	<b>19</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Robin Eckert wedding
<b>20</b> Forum Hour, Mary Sulerud <b>8:00 AM</b> HE-I, Zabriskie <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>9:05 AM</b> Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room <b>10:00 AM</b> Holy Eucharist II, Chapel <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> Youth Clay Class <b>11:30 AM</b> Sunday School end of year party, Parish Hall	<b>21</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Qi gong, Parish Hall <b>6:30 PM</b> Knitting Group, 1823 Pub/VTS <b>7:30 PM - 8:45 PM</b> Yoga, Parish Hall	<b>22</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> Outreach, Fairchild Room	<b>23</b> TAT Mailing <b>6:30 AM</b> Early Christians, Fairchild <b>7:00 PM</b> Mary Sulerud class on transitions <b>7:00 PM - 9:30 PM</b> School for the Spirit	<b>24</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir, Choir Room	<b>25</b> SHRINEMONT WEEKEND <b>12:30 PM</b> Muslim Worship, Parish Hall <b>8:30 PM</b> AA, Fairchild	<b>26</b> SHRINEMONT WEEKEND <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Dignity, Zabriskie
<b>27</b> SHRINEMONT WEEKEND <b>8:00 AM</b> HE-I, Zabriskie <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>9:05 AM</b> Circle of Quiet, Vestry Room <b>10:00 AM</b> Holy Eucharist I, Chapel	<b>28</b> MEMORIAL DAY, OFFICE CLOSED <b>7:30 PM - 8:45 PM</b> Yoga, Parish Hall	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Early Christians, Fairchild <b>9:00 AM</b> TAT mailing	<b>31</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir, Choir Room	<b>1</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Muslim Worship, Parish Hall <b>8:30 PM</b> AA, Fairchild	<b>2</b> <b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Dignity, Zabriskie

Please note: Parish Administrator, Jennifer Addington, will be on leave and away from the office May 21-25.

### Upcoming Events:

June 3, Newcomers' Sunday, Mass on the Grass

June 10, Youth Sunday

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

### **UPCOMING ALMOND TREE SCHEDULE**

May 9, 30 (second and fifth Wednesdays of May (Jennifer will be away the fourth Wednesday)

June 13, 27 (second and fourth Wednesdays in June)

July and August still to be determined – probably only one issue the middle of each month

### Lectionary Readings and Schedule of Services



#### **April 29, Easter 4**

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

8:00 a.m., HEI, 10:00 a.m., HEI

#### **May 6, Easter 5, First Sunday for the Rev. Mary Sulerud**

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:24-30; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

8:00 a.m., HE I, 10:00 a.m., HEII

#### **May 13, Easter 6**

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

8:00 a.m., HE I, 10:00 a.m., HEII