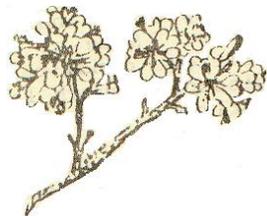


THE ALMOND TREE

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr., Rector
The Rev. David Crosby, Associate Rector
Jennifer Addington, Editor



November 13, 2013

"I said to the almond tree, 'Sister, speak to me of God.' And the almond tree blossomed." Nikos Kazantzakis

Be Kind

Recently at 1823 (The Café at Virginia Seminary), a group was exploring definitions of Standards of Righteousness when they came to this: "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is a law and the prophets" (Matthew 7: 12). This is "The Golden Rule," the rule of all rules. It is found in most major religions of the world. Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism and Confucianism all have some form of this saying, but most state it differently: If you know how you don't want to be treated, then you know how others don't want to be treated. This is sometimes referred to as "the Silver Rule."

The version Jesus offers seems more open-minded and challenging. It speaks from a position of compassion and care extended to one another rather than that which may inevitably require some apology, seeking of forgiveness and ultimately, hopefully, gaining reconciliation. We promote forgiveness and reconciliation, but starting from goodness, from Love, knowing how we hope to be treated, and letting that guide us in our treatment of others seems the better course. But it requires understanding on our part about how we wish to be treated.

Beginning in 2006, I spent much time in prayer, quiet reflection, and active writing to respond to the question of call for my church. It was lots of time with trusted people, caring others, and some strangers to share who and what I am, and what I offer in continuing service to God. When the Committee on Priesthood recommended me to the Bishop, they wrote the following: "Kindness is one of his essential attributes. He is definitely a pastor – and will always be one." That, in a word, is basically my answer to this reflection about the Golden Rule. That is how I want to be treated. That is how I hope I treat others.

Kindness abounds in my life, and I am blessed because of it. Chrissie, the Heart Of My Heart, is one daily personification of Kindness in my life. Much of what any of you may see in me as kind has been cultivated from this wonderful woman who shares her life with me. My families, the immediate one which bore me, the extended one which accepted me, earlier parish families and now here at Immanuel, demonstrate regular instances of kindness to me and for others. These examples of Kindness guide me, helping me to see how I wish to be treated, and informing me about how to treat others. There were many before them, and through God's Grace, there will surely be more to come after them.

Kindness. It is a quality of being warmhearted, considerate, humane, and sympathetic. All these things point to kindness as one of the characteristics, or attributes, of God. We were made in the image of God. The great kindness of God is never-ending. Strive always to love like God.

One of my favorite casual shirts says, "Human kindness. Be both!"

Blessings & Peace,
David

PASTORAL CARE CORNER: Please remember these parishioners in your prayers: Duncan MacDonald, Morgan, Janet Siegrist, Catherine, Mary, Natalie Doyle-Hennin, Bill Frye, Yvonne Pover, Arlo and Katie Lloyd, Judy Bednar, Jessi MacLeod, Barbara Fornoff, Mei Lung DeVight, Betty Wannamaker, Barbara Currie, Chris Stanek, Warren Phillips, Jean Schnedl, Pierre Shostal.

Please also remember in your prayers members of our extended Parish family: Dean and Charlotte Kellogg, Chris Rarick, Eleanor Boothe Smith, Sam Faeth, Anthony Christino, Jr., Jane Burton, Keith Green, Lois, Percy Hays, Alex, Marian, and Bob Love, Tom Hewson, Sr., Danny Christoffersen, Ross Dickerson, Jim Clear, Lindsey Rose, Cathy and Stewart Hoskins, Laura Hudson, Ann and Larry Kaplan, Aubree Bowling, Quinn, Erin Monroney, Marjorie Glassco, Paul, Kathryn, Carol Brown, Scott, Bob Weeks, Sharon Laboditz, Doratheia E. Peters, MaryJean Anderson, Erin Lewis.

Those serving in the U.S. and overseas: Todd Bates, Ian Phillips, John Patrick Miller; Jon and Nicole Anderson, Noah Barker, Ryan, Will Murtha.

FILE CABINET LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME: We have a black metal two-drawer file cabinet in the parish office for which we have no need. Rather than it cluttering up the landfill, if anyone can use it, please call Jennifer in the Parish Office at 703-370-6555 to arrange for pick-up. Not pretty, but definitely functional!

DID YOU KNOW?: Peggy “Well Known Buffalo” White, Executive Director of The Center Pole Foundation, is to be honoured by the Dalai Lama! She was selected as an “Unsung Hero of Compassion” by the Wisdom in Action organization. This accolade will be presented by His Holiness the Dalai Lama on February 23, 2014 in San Francisco. The Center Pole sprang out of the Kelly Foundation. Both foundations were started and administered by our own parishioners, Dan, Nancy and Susie Kelly. The Center Pole is located at the Crow Reservation where Susie is Program Director. Both foundations receive support from Immanuel’s Outreach Program.

Dan and Nancy Kelly



ALTAR FLOWERS make wonderful offerings of thanks for special anniversaries and memorial events – as gifts that illuminate God’s creation and bless our worship. You may sign up to give flowers by calling Jennifer Addington, the parish Administrator, at 703-370-6555. Look at your calendars and pick a special day to give flowers! Suggested contribution is \$40.



FALL GARDEN CLEAN-UP: On Saturday, November 30, Immanuel will have our semi-annual Zabriskie Gardens clean-up. Volunteers are welcome (and needed!). Work will begin at 10:00 a.m., with a break for a working lunch. Come and join the garden crew for all day, or as much time as you can spare!

FUN FRIDAY NIGHT! Please join us Friday, December 6 at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall for a fun and relaxing evening with friends and family! Our annual **Caroling, Cookies, & Crafts** event is a casual evening for all ages. There will be Advent & Christmas crafts for the kids, and music, light food & drinks for all. Feel free to bring your favorite snack or beverage to share, but it is not necessary. Questions? Contact Carrie Cuddy at carriecuddy@verizon.net. We hope to see you there!

WHAT’S NEW ON IMMANUEL’S WEBSITE? There’s a new purple “Stewardship” button right in the middle of the homepage at www.icoh.net. If you click on it, you will be taken to the brand-new “Stewardship At A Glance” page. Did you miss Commitment Sunday (November 10)? Never fear! On this page, you can find the link to make your online pledge to Immanuel or download a pledge form. You can also review the current Stewardship Brochure and find background information on Stewardship and Planned Giving in Immanuel’s website. This page will also take you to the “Spiritual Gifts” section of the website where you can discover your own talents as well as opportunities to develop those talents at Immanuel.

ARE YOU CALLED TO VESTRY SERVICE in 2014? Then our four departing members — **Doug John, Brooke Roberts, John von Senden** and **Senior Warden Connie Kurz** — would love to hear from you.

On January 26th at the parish annual meeting, we again will elect four fellow parishioners to a three-year term. This 12-member group, working with our clergy, makes decisions about the life of this parish, its worship and programs, its staffing and the well-being of the physical plant on behalf of us all.

The "Class of 2014" will see Immanuel on the Hill through exciting times, as we work with our new Rector — the Rev. Randy Alexander — to imagine an enriched worship life here and at the seminary's new Immanuel Chapel in 2015.

Serving on Vestry can be a richly rewarding experience. It offers a chance to "go deeper" — to think about worship and issues affecting the church, to connect with new friends in the pews, and to use leadership muscles in God's service in our parish home. Doug, Brooke, John and I are happy to share our experiences and to answer your questions about this commitment of time and talents to God in this beloved place.

— Connie Kurz

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN SMUCKER, WITH A PLEA FOR YOUR HELP

Dear Parish family,

Some or many of you knew Becky Graham and her son, William (Morgan). We are asking any of you who are so disposed to write a new letter on his behalf to the Virginia Parole Board asking for his parole or pardon after 20 years in a Nevada prison, there to protect him from harm. As some of you know, he was recruited by 3 men to take part in a bank robbery in 1972. A policeman was killed by the three inside; William was not inside. He turned himself in later and was given the same sentence as the other three. He has made a remarkable change in his life since then. The Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Katharine Schori, knew him in prison and has written on his behalf, as has Bishop Peter Lee. Please send you letter to his attorney, Plato Cacheris, at the address below. You may pattern your letter after mine, also printed below. Thank you greatly, John Smucker.

Plato Cacheris

Trout Cacheris

1350 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 300

Washington DC 20036

Dear Sir,

Re: William W. Graham, VA DOC No 1027438

I am writing to you today as I have written to Governors in 1998, 2005 and 2011. William W. Graham, a prisoner in Nevada, is a friend of mine. I knew him as a boy at the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria back in 1958.

We have corresponded for the past 15 years.

William (Morgan) Graham has made a remarkable turn in his life since he has been in prison. He has been a model person, a chapel assistant, an artist, an author. He has weathered some difficult times these 20 years. He has made a marked readjustment.

I believe he would be an able citizen in this community if you would release him now.

As a part time former prison chaplain/visitor, I would volunteer as a lay-parole assistant and provide additional help for William as needed. He can live with us.

It is my sincere hope that you will consider favorably parole and/or pardon of William at this time.

Respectfully,

John R. Smucker III

QUESTIONS FROM A SERMON....Rector's Note: I received several requests to print the following series of questions that I posed as part of our observance of All Saints' Day. I was asking the question where we would look if asking whether we were growing in our Christian faith, what some metrics might be. I offer you these few questions which I have put together. I make no claim that they are complete. They are meant to help us all ask some more questions, and I look forward to asking them together.

1) Do you attend? Do you gather regularly with God's people in order to worship? Woody Allen said, "99% of life is just showing up." Much of the same could be said about Church. Do you come to be nourished by the Word, by the Sacraments, and by our fellowship together?

2) Do you try to learn more? Is study of the Bible, Church History, ethics, the role of the Church in the world today, etc. part of your life? This might include keeping up with current events and trying to understand them in light of our faith.

3) When a skeptic or a genuine seeker asks, can you defend, explain, and commend your faith? What would you say? If you have no idea how you would do this, I would say that is a challenge--not an insurmountable one, but something for you to work on. There is incredible spiritual hunger in our time, and if the people of God remain meek and silent how are the seekers to learn?

4) Do you give, of all that you are--of your time, talent and money? We are in Stewardship season now, but this is a question well beyond any one season. It is a question of lifestyle.

5) Do you reject the ways in which the world tries to define you? As you leave these doors, the world will evaluate you by how young or how old you are, how much money you have, your tax bracket, where you live, what degrees you have, what you do, or even how many children you have. The Christian message is radically different. Even though it is often difficult, especially in this culture, the Christian is always encouraged to remember and to proclaim, "I am a child of God." Everything else flows from that. This is our primary identity.

6) Do you treat people with more patience, love, and genuine understanding, even in the midst of disagreement and disapproval of certain behaviors? The goal seems to be to treat people as ends, not as means to an end. Imagine walking in their shoes for a day, or even an hour, and see how that changes things. Another way to say this is, as our Lord said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

7) Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? You might expect this phrase to come from a fundamentalist preacher or a TV evangelist, but I don't think we can let them have a monopoly on it. I am *not* extolling personal relationship at the expense of community. I *am* talking about individually appropriating what we do together, such as asking, "How does this story relate to my life? What does God mean to me?" In the midst of that relationship with God we are invited to express joy, awe, reverence, anger, pain, and to intercede for others; in short, we are to *pray*.

8) Do you work actively to alleviate the suffering of God's people and to change systems which dehumanize and enslave God's people? Jesus said, "Whatever you have done to the least of these you have done to me." This is Outreach, very much in the DNA of this parish.

9) Do you pursue personal health and growth--physically, spiritually, mentally, emotionally, financially, relationally? This may include therapy, spiritual direction, time alone, etc. This is stewardship of what we have been given. It is taking time to notice. John Lennon said, "Life is what happens while you are making plans." Thoreau said, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." Taking time out to notice, to appreciate, to give thanks, and to share is a powerful antidote to this desperation.

A summary question might be, "Do you more and more see your whole life as defined by and caught up in God's greater plan?" In other words, is God what makes it all make sense? I realize we are all on a journey, and like

the stock market there are highs and there are lows. But we can plot an average projection. Is that projection headed in the right way, in a God-ward way?

Two Caveats here: I am not talking about works' righteousness or trying to make God love you or trying to earn your salvation. Those are already in place, through God's grace. What I am talking about is growing in grace, growing more like Christ, growing more into who and what we can be and are meant to be.

The question is never, "Am I perfect?", but "Am I growing?" **As long as we are alive there is always room to change and room to grow.** An amazing aspect of the Christian tradition is the invitation to enter ever deeper into the mystery and love of God, to grow and grow--to seek. To grow not in hopes of any reward, save knowing Christ better, and knowing ourselves better. As the old saying goes, "All this and Heaven too."

A Prayer of Thomas Merton:

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.
Amen.



Thursday, November 28, 10:30 a.m.

"SOCIAL JUSTICE UNIVERSITY" NOV 24. The annual “**Social Justice University**” will be held on Sunday, November 24, 2013 from 3pm to 5pm at Temple Beth El (3830 Seminary Road, just up the hill from Immanuel). Please plan to attend this important interfaith event and learn about the issues that the Virginia Interfaith Center will be advancing in 2014 before the General Assembly and beyond. This event is free, and no advance registration is required. For additional information, please see below – and also feel free to contact Jamie Conrad at 703-836-0655 or jwc58@comcast.net.

BACKGROUND:

Virginia Interfaith Center (VIC): The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is an ecumenical faith-based advocacy group that seeks to ensure that the policies of the Commonwealth of Virginia embody the religious values of justice, fairness, peace and sustainability. It is supported by Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim congregations and individuals. It also receives grant funding from foundations, and collaborates with various like-minded social justice organizations. You can read more about VIC on its website

(<http://virginiainterfaithcenter.org/Home.aspx>)

Social Justice University: The Northern Virginia chapter of VIC organizes “Social Justice University” each year to help educate folks about the priority issues that VIC will be advancing in 2014 before the General Assembly and beyond. You can find both the official flyer for the November 24 event and VIC’s 2014 policy issue pamphlet on the VIC website above.

*Who can tell what a day may bring forth?
Cause me therefore, gracious God,
To live every day as if it were to be my last,
For I know not but that it may be such.
Cause me to live now as I shall wish I had done when I come to die.*
--St. Thomas a Kempis (c.1380-1471)
From ***The Imitation of Christ***



GRACE AND GRATITUDE IN THE PUMPKIN PATCH

Immanuel has much to be thankful for, in this 20th year of selling pumpkins to help fund our outreach efforts into communities in need.

Most important, we are grateful to our neighbors in Alexandria and the surrounding region who came to buy pumpkins, gourds, and delicious treats. They helped us break all past sales records and, after paying our suppliers and sales taxes, we have a record profit of \$67,057 for outreach.

We also give thanks for the many Immanuelites who helped with pumpkin unloading (and supporting the unloaders!) on Pumpkin Sunday, as well as the young volunteers from Episcopal High School, St. Stephens and St. Agnes, and Alexandria Country Day School who joined us in unloading another two 18-wheeler truckloads to replenish the Patch mid-October. Those efforts were made possible by the outstandingly energetic and organized team who coordinated the pumpkin deliveries: our Truck Manager **Stephanie Harris**, the Pumpkin Sunday Coordinator **Mike Eaton**, and the Wednesday Truck Coordinator **Jamie Conrad**.

Gratitude also goes to the more than 150 parishioners who volunteered to serve in the Pumpkin Patch throughout the month – some in wind and driving rain! We are thankful to have had a crack team pulling the volunteers together: Volunteer Manager **Candy Levin**, Sign-Up Coordinator **Pierre Shostal**, and Reminder Coordinator **Lissa Soergel**.

We never would have broken past fundraising records this year without the outpouring of homemade foodstuffs that yielded 100% profit to Immanuel and represented nearly a quarter of our net revenues. Many thanks to **Susan Post** for serving as Food Manager, **Phyllis Ginger** as Bakery Coordinator, **Connie Kurz** as Soup Coordinator, and **Melinda Ashton** as Apple Crisps Coordinator.

We thank the more than thirty parishioners who worked together to produce 576 apple crisps over four days of peeling, chopping, and assembling – including investments of time well above and beyond the call of duty by the **Gildersleeves**, the **Stewarts**, **Georgia and Jan Maas**, and **Nellie Vega**. We also thank Immanuel's talented bakers (and the Sunday School classes who mass-produced Tootsie Pop "ghosties") for keeping the display cases filled with cupcakes, muffins, pies, cookies, brownies, breads, caramel apples, Rice Krispy treats; Phyllis Ginger commented on your "incredible work ethic and acts of love," for which we are truly grateful. And blessed are the soup-makers, for they have filled their neighbors's freezers with 394 quarts of delicious bounty: **Immanuel's Youth Group**, **Gilma Balcarcel**, **Lisa Clausen**, **Chrissie Crosby**, **Sara Fein**, **Lisa Frye**, **Sue Gilbertson**, **John Gross**, **Debbie Hewson**, **Ginny Johnstone**, **Dorothy Kellogg**, **Connie Kurz**, **Suzanne Lamb**, **Candy Levin**, **Georgia Maas**, **Martha Manson**, **Sudie McGahuey**, **Carla Murray**, **Jean Peyton**, **Mary Ann Renhke**, **Carrie Rodriguez**, **Rosi Stewart**, and **Chris von Schoening**.

Even if your name has not been mentioned here, please know your contributions were greatly appreciated. It took the efforts of all food-producing volunteers to push our food sales to the second-highest level in twenty years!

We were lucky to have experienced folks working for us in the Operations area, with Operations Manager **John von Senden**, Set-Up Coordinator **Doug Onley**, Close-Out Coordinator **Francine Wargo**, and ever-present Maintenance Coordinator **Bill Duran**. We also thank our Daily Pumpkin Patch Coordinators **Carla Murray**, **Debbie Hewson**, **Kathryn Haskin**, **Stefanie Reponen**, **Sudie McGahuey**, **Rosi Stewart**, **Kay Hobson**, **Everett Post** and **Callie Curtis**. A special thanks to **John Bednar** for his frequent and always-helpful presence at the Patch, assisting with set-up, take-down, clean-up, and various unpopular but highly important chores.

Substantial revenues come to Immanuel through special orders, and we were fortunate to have that critical area managed by **Kyrah Drasheff**, with logistics coordinated by the **Youth Group**.

We also thank **Susan Dawson** for her continuing efforts and success in advancing publicity, as well as training **Brooke Roberts** in Pumpkin Patch communications strategies. And kudos to the Alexandria Gazette-Packet for giving the Patch front-page coverage at our kickoff, and also running a story and photos of the student volunteers unloading mid-month!

Tracking Patch proceeds is a difficult, time-consuming, detail-oriented task, and we are deeply grateful to **Jim Snow** for again tackling this daily challenge.

Last but most certainly not least, we thank the set-up/take-down crew who created the Pumpkin Patch and then packed it away for another year, including **Doug Onley**, **John Bednar**, **Kevin Kirby**, **Doug John**, **Doug Henry**, **Francine Wargo** and **Caroline Bergmark**, among others.

Many in Alexandria call Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill the “Pumpkin Church” – and that name is more appropriate than they may realize, considering how many Immanuel parishioners contributed in some way to making the 2013 Pumpkin Patch a success. If you were part of these efforts, whether we managed to list you or not in this article, thank you so much! It would not have happened without you! And if you weren't, we hope you'll think next year about how you might be able to help. As you can see, it's very much a team effort.

We're already assembling our team for next year, so please let us know your ideas and/or how you would like to participate – we would love to hear from you!

-- 2013 Pumpkin Team Shepherds: Pierre Shostal, Jim Snow, and Jamie Conrad; and Vestry Liaison Martha Manson.



CHRISTMAS FAMILIES 2013

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth (Isaiah 65:17a)

For many families at Immanuel it would not be Christmas without bringing the good news of Christ's coming and God's love in a very tangible form ó a toy to grow with, clothing to keep warm in ó to another family, transforming a bleak Christmas into a part of God's new earth.

We will have about 100 families designated by Child Protective Services and about 20 families from Child and Family Network Centers and the Alexandria Community Shelter.

You can sign up to buy gifts for a family, or part of one, before or after each service on four Sundays, Nov. 17, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8, or outside the parish office in between. In addition, **used computers** (in good working condition, with or without an offer of set-up and some initial orientation), **used bicycles, good used toys and children's books, and good used clothing and blankets** (for children and adults), especially warm winter coats and clothes to wear to a new-found job, are very welcome. (Please label packages of clothing as to kind and size.) All contributions will be collected and presented at the Altar at the services on Dec. 15; or you can bring them to the parish office. We buy children's books in quantity very cheaply. The books will be on display in the parish hall on Sunday, Dec. 8. **You can select some books (2 – 3 for each child) for your adopted family;** to help us keep track, **please take the sheet for your family from the stack in the parish hall.** We will prepare a set of books for each remaining family and add it to the bag(s) of gifts you brought in.

If you prefer, **you can contribute money and we will do the shopping for you.** Please make your check out to Immanuel and mark it "Christmas Families". Gifts bought with contributed money will be wrapped during the forum hour on Dec. 15. **The special offering on Dec. 15 is dedicated to Christmas Families.**

There are many opportunities to help with fixing bicycles (the experts will show you how), midnight shopping to take advantage of Black Friday sales, arranging and tagging the toys (Sat Dec. 14, 9 am -), sorting gifts (M Dec. 15, 9 am -), transportation, data input. See, call, or email one of us for details or go to www.icoh.net and look under Newsroom.

Let us brighten many children's Christmas, bringing them some of the joys and opportunities of God's new creation, a light in our own celebration.

Dagobert and Lissa Soergel (703-823-2840, 703-585-2840, dsoergel@umd.edu; 703-869-9848, lissa@whollygenes.com).

Linda Serabian (703-683-5226 X17, (703-836-4670H, serabian@somaarchitects.com)

Connie Kurz 703/370-0062 <cgkurz@aol.com>

Julie Bruns (703- 534-7913, drbruns@bellatlantic.net)

The Ministry of Camellias

The Bible speaks of spiritual gifts endowed in us by the Holy Spirit ó gifts like ministering, teaching, giving, and leading (Romans 12:6-8). One such gift that graces the Immanuel congregation is the camellia ministry practiced by Mary McCormack.

You may recognize Mary as a tiny, 90-something woman who attends ICOH services in a wheelchair, accompanied by one of her home health aides. From her perch along the center aisle, Mary's eyes eagerly take in her fellow congregation.

On more than one Sunday each spring, Mary and her aide arrive at church with large containers of camellia blossoms cut from the 40 full-grown bushes in her yard, each one individually wrapped with a moist paper towel. The distinctive blooms ó red and white striped, pink with startling yellow centers ó are offered to the congregation as beautiful tokens to take home, display in a glass bowl, and herald the arrival of Spring.

õI love sharing my flowers. We have a nice group of people [at Immanuel]. We're a caring group,ö Mary explains.

Camellias are a tradition Mary inherited from her roots in Barnwell, S.C, near the Georgia border. õMy mother and grandmother were great camellia growers,ö she said.

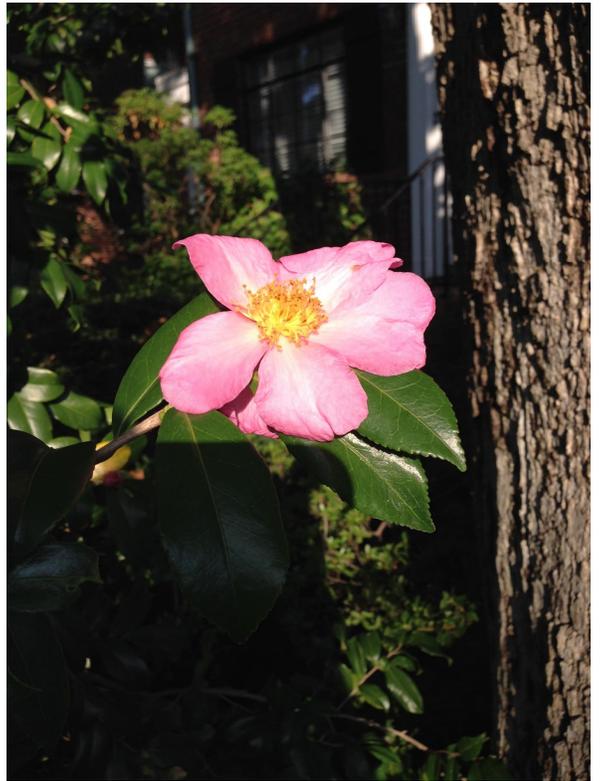
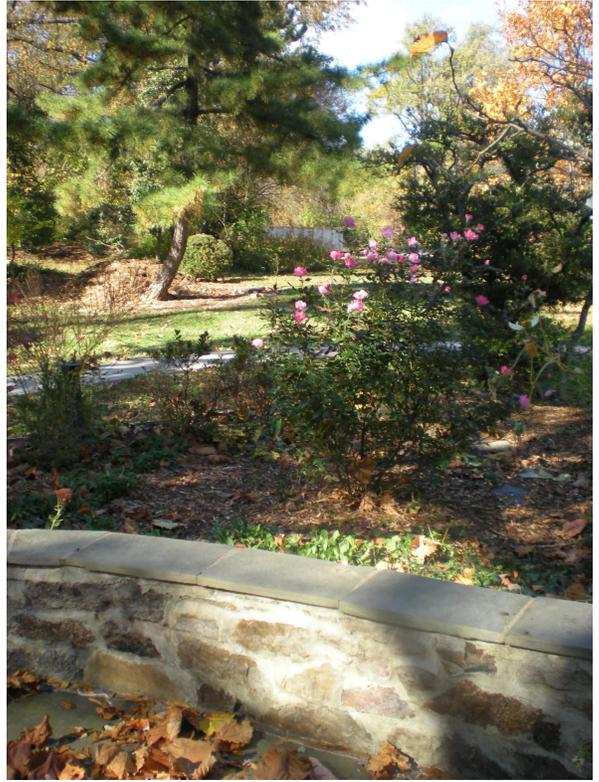
During World War II, when she and her husband, James, settled into the Beverly Hills neighborhood of Alexandria in the home where she still lives, the tradition continued. õWe'd have camellias brought up from the South,ö Mary explained, and James tended them and created a woodland surrounding the house. The couple's camellia-growing prowess was furthered as Mary supervised plantings at the Daughters of the American Revolution Hall in Washington, DC, and she and James became friends with Bill Ackerman, an expert who developed frost-resistant varieties.

After James fell ill with cancer and approached the end of his life, Mary had his hospital bed moved into the corner of their sun room, which had once been a porch. õIt was so nice ó there were flowers blooming all around,ö she mused. Now the return of the blossoms keeps his memory alive.

In addition to sharing her home blooms, Mary, over the years, has donated numerous camellia bushes to the Immanuel grounds. Right now, several are in their fall bloom. Take a moment to discern the blossoms behind the Parish Hall and bordering the terrace off the Fairchild Room. When you do, you'll experience Mary's camellia ministry and its benefit to Immanuel.

Photos and article submitted by Martha Taggart as one in a series that will highlight parishioners who have contributed to Immanuel's award-winning gardens and grounds. Please join us for a parish garden workday on Saturday, November 30.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Lectionary Readings and
Schedule of Services



November 17, The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:17-25; Canticle 9; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

8:00 a.m., HEI; 9:15 a.m., HEII; 11:15 a.m., HEI

November 24, Christ the King Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Canticle 4, Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

8 a.m., HEI, 9:15 a.m., HEII, 11:15 a.m., HEII

November 28, Thanksgiving Day

Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 100, Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35

December 1, First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

8:00 a.m., HEI; 9:15 a.m., HEII, 11:15 a.m., HEI