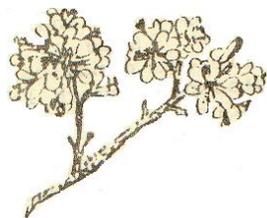


THE ALMOND TREE

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

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



June 26, 2014

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

VALLEY DRIVE COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL MOVES TO IMMANUEL: Did you notice a large POD in the parking lot earlier in June? That big storage box signaled "move in day" for our newest tenant, the Valley Drive Cooperative Preschool. If you hadn't yet heard, this September, for the first time in decades, Immanuel will be the Monday-through-Friday home of this 56-year-old Alexandria preschool. We count current and former VDCP students among our parishioners.

Here's a short update on the move: Our Sunday School room classes are all freshly painted, and the teachers and preschool volunteers moved in their furniture and supplies last week.

Cub Run Builders started on the new nursery door construction on June 23 (city code requires a second door to be in place.) The goal is to have the construction completed on July 9, so that the nursery can be painted on July 10 or 11. The preschool staff hopes to be setting up the classrooms and preparing for the fire inspection and walk through with state license personnel the week of July 14th.

Watch this space for future updates on the new playground coming to Immanuel's back garden later this summer.

From Immanuel's side, the staff and Vestry are grateful to parishioner Bill Duran, who has been hard at work clearing and organizing the space under the outdoor deck in order to provide an unencumbered and safe route for the Valley Drive children going to the playground. He has hung our work ladders on the deck sides, nailed a 2 x 4 board between two supports to keep objects from poking out into the walkway, and installed a piece of lattice to keep the stored items hidden.

Bill also is working with Garden Ministry lead Chris von Schoening to clean out the garden storage area, a room located under the kitchen with outdoor access. They have emptied the space of outdated supplies and found new homes for some old worktables and ladders. That should allow enough room to store pumpkin wagons that were previously corralled under the deck. Please thank Bill for this critical work when you next see him.

Have questions or comments about the construction activities? Please speak to our Resources Steward, Doug Onley (dougandkam@verizon.net).

Connie Kurz

THE SIGNING OF THE LEASE WITH THE VALLEY DRIVE COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL:

Pictured (left to right): Brandy Reber, president; Cindy Hodgkins, director, Becky Kotuby, past president, and Randy Alexander, Rector of Immanuel.



Picture by Jennifer Addington

PASTORAL CARE CORNER: Please remember these parishioners in your prayers: Morgan, Catherine, Mary, Duncan MacDonald, Natalie Doyle-Hennin, Bill Frye, Dana Hengst, Chris Stanek, Jacquie, Cadence, Warren Phillips, Norma and Dick Taliaferro, Dick Hobson, Callie Curtis, Marcia Murray, Opal Beverly, Kay Neer, Susan Kernan.

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, Alex, Marian, and Bob Love, Tom Hewson, Sr., Ross Dickerson, Jim Clear, Lindsey Rose, Cathy and Stewart Hoskins, Ann and Larry Kaplan, Aubree Bowling, Paul, Kathryn, Carol Brown, Scott, Sharon Laboditz, Patricia, Howard Sutherland, Mary Jean Anderson, Mildred, Dan Wells, Erin and Rob Schiesel, Linda Monzi, Elesa McFadden, Thomas Arminio, Boyd Noorda, Jewel, Ryan, Robert Carter, Preston Atwood, Sharon Waiss, Stephen Miller, Jim Rarick, Oliver, Anne Turner, Dorothy, Judy Pearson.

Those serving in the U.S. and overseas: Todd Bates, Ian Phillips, John Patrick Miller; Jon and Nicole Anderson, Noah Barker, Will Murtha, Allen Kellogg, Keith June, and Carolyn Bartley.

WILL YOU SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP? As Immanuel continues to expand, our Worship ministries welcome newcomers and old-timers to consider participating in one or more of our ministries. We welcome adults and youth to be Acolytes, Readers, Intercessors, Chalicists, Ushers, Altar and Flower Guild members. Commitment levels can accommodate those with busy schedules and those with more time to offer. Our clergy, worship steward and ministry chairs will hold training sessions in the fall to make sure all are aware of ministry procedures and processes. Please consider your talents and time and joining our Worship ministries. For more information and should you wish to participate over the summer, please contact Rosi Stewart at rustewart@comcast.net



INFORMATION FOR SENIORS:

There is a new Senior Information Corner now set up in the parish hall which will be constantly re-stocked with up to date information on all kinds of services, opportunities and events for seniors in Alexandria. Great scoop so please check it out -it's a great time to be senior in Alexandria and at Immanuel!



WE ARE PROUD OF ONE OF OUR OWN! One longtime parishioner who advocates for area senior citizens is Gordon Peyton, who recently received recognition for his work on the board of directors of Senior Services of Alexandria

at their annual lunch. SSA is the group that oversees Meals on Wheels and other programs aimed at supporting older members of the city. "Mr. Peyton has been a valuable member of the board and its communications committee," read the SSA citation. "His wisdom, steadfastness and counsel was extremely appreciated by Board Chair Gregg Murphy and the board members. His commitment to Alexandria's seniors to live with dignity and independence is to admired, and SSA is grateful for his service."

Please offer your appreciation of Gordon's work on behalf of Alexandria seniors when you next see him in church.

Questions? Suggestions? Please feel free to contact the Vestry Steward for Senior Ministry and Fellowship Martha Manson when you see her at Immanuel on Sundays or at manson.martha@gmail.com.

JULY 4 RACE TO BENEFIT HAITI-MICAH If you enjoy running on beautiful trails, come and join a 5K at Great Falls Park, VA on July 4th at 9AM, to benefit a worthy cause. The Falls 5K trail race is a fun, off-road, running race on a two lap course on the Matildaville and Old Carriage trails in Great Falls Park, VA. Even with a slight uphill start, this is a fast course with wide dirt trails. Mass start in grassy area adjacent to overlook 3. The race route is smooth with minimal vertical change on well defined trails.

Packet pickup is at 8:15am, with start at 9:00am, and awards at 10:00am. Results and pictures will be available on Fast Trak Racing web page. For this race, Fast Trak will donate a portion of each entry fee to the Haiti-Micah Project (<http://haiti-micah.org/>) - a locally-based mission that provides amazing outreach to kids and teens in Mirebalais, Haiti and has long been supported by Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill.



Details:

Date: July 4, 2014

Location: Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive 22102

Packet pickup: 8:15a.m.

Start: 9:00a.m.

Distance: 5K

Entry fee: \$25, Parking fee: \$5

Sign-up online at www.fasttrakracing.com.

Benefit Run for Haiti-Micah

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK...AND LOVE US ON YELP AND YAHOO! Not only do we have an institutional site on Facebook, but we have established a share site where 74 parishioners (so far) are sharing news and photos of Immanuel happenings. This is a private group site, by invitation only, and we invite all current parishioners to join the sharing fun! You can request to join by going to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/immanuelchurchonthehill/>

If you are already a member, please invite those parishioners with whom you are personal Facebook friends. All you need to do is go to the box on the right called "About", go to the box inside it that says "+ Add People to Group" and type in Immanuel friends' names.

We recently updated our presence on YELP and on YAHOO...so check us out. Here are the URLs to find us:

<http://www.yelp.com/biz/immanuel-church-on-the-hill-alexandria>

<http://www.yellowpages.com/alexandria-va/mip/immanuel-church-on-the-hill-8026195>

And if there is something you love about Immanuel...you can write a review, give us a "Stars" rating, and post it. Your reviews could help a potential new parishioner find us...based on information in reviews, like: inspirational sermons; great music; welcoming congregation; loving Sunday School; active fellowship; etc.

PLEDGE REMINDER: Please remember this summer while you are on vacation that the bills at Immanuel still need to be paid – we would appreciate it if you would keep your pledge current!



2014

Christmas Families in August: Dominican Republic, Haiti, Alexandria: Help children with school supplies – critical tools for learning!

Every fall children in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Alexandria go off to school without the critical tools for learning. They do not have backpacks, notebooks, crayons, pencils, scissors, calculators, or the money for gym uniforms and fees. Maybe not having school supplies doesn't seem like such a terrible hardship. But take a moment to think back to your own childhood. Remember how excited you were to pick out your supplies, making sure to get just the right color of notebook, Now picture the hurt on a child's face when he or she learns their family can't afford to buy all the school materials they need. These children need our help.

There are three ways you can help

1) Alexandria Child Protective Services identified families in need (many of them are families we helped last Christmas). **You can sign up to provide school supplies for the children in one family** any time between now and Sunday, August 4, on the sign-up boards in the narthex of Zabriskie Chapel. Several Immanuel families may want to sign up together to help one large family, and that is okay! Please put your name and phone number with the family you choose, and take from the manila folder the corresponding sheet with the names. Ignore the gift suggestions (those were for Christmas); look in the attachment for the school supplies required for the school and grade. Please bring the school supplies to church on or before Sunday, August 17. For students attending Tucker Elementary School the deadline is Sunday, July 20, because they start on August 1. (Mt. Vernon School no longer follows this special schedule.)

2) You can donate money at the special collections during Immanuel's services on July 20 and August 17 (or by mail or delivery to the church office anytime between now and August 17. Please make checks out to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and mark them XFAM. The money will be allocated as follows:

One third to Episcopal schools in the Dominican Republic

One third to Episcopal schools in Haiti

One third to Alexandria (1/6 to Child Protective Services and 1/6 to Community Lodgings)

3) You can donate additional school supplies – especially backpacks (new or used and in good shape). Please look for the box in the narthex of Zabriskie Chapel to deposit your donations.

Let us give all children a good start in the new school year!

Lissa Soergel (703-823-2840, 703-869-9848, <lissa@whollygenes.com>)

Dagobert Soergel (703-823-2840, 703-585-2840, dsoergel@umd.edu)

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

Linda Serabian (703-836-4670, <serabian@somaarchitects.com>)

JACKO POST TO OFFER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ON SUMMER SUNDAYS: On **July 13th and 20th**, and then August **3rd and 10th**, recent college graduate and long-time member of Immanuel Jacko Post will offer a program for children beginning at 10 a.m., in lieu of Sunday School. The children will then join their parents for Communion. Jacko says, "Come hang out during the 10:00AM service for fun, games, and discussion. Enjoy an abbreviated form of Shrine Mont fun as we explore readings from that Sunday in an interactive, engaging way. Come on by!"



SUMMER OFFICE HOUR SCHEDULE: In keeping with our time-honored tradition, the office hours in July and August will be 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. Of course, if there are needs to be met, we will certainly be here!

07/01 Nancy Kelly
 07/01 Stefanie Reponen
 07/01 Beth McGahuey
 07/01 Garrett Clausen
 07/01 Ben Wilson
 07/02 Peter Maratta
 07/02 Heather Benjamin
 07/02 Scott Manson
 07/02 Christopher Paul
 07/03 Scottie Scott
 07/03 Thomas Rainey
 07/04 Paul Cummins
 07/04 Beatriz Richter
 07/05 Kathleen Davis
 07/05 Madeline Davis
 07/06 Matthew Ingold
 07/06 Emily Kell
 07/07 Maurice O'Connor
 07/07 Elizabeth Lambert
 07/07 Robert Coleman
 07/07 Allen Kellogg
 07/08 Gillian Good
 07/08 Elizabeth Drennon
 07/09 Jeff Gehrs
 07/09 Jim Chesson
 07/09 Sophie West
 07/09 Kara Kachejian
 07/10 Frank Kozuch
 07/10 Gillian Boam
 07/11 Rosi Stewart
 07/11 Nellie Vega
 07/11 Lee Veal
 07/12 Mary Bruce Batte
 07/12 Monica Bellais
 07/12 Kevin Veal
 07/12 Susan Warlick
 07/12 Ava Hobson
 07/12 Peyton Pollach
 07/13 Bryant Mitchell
 07/13 Jen Ashline
 07/13 Ashley Michaelis
 07/14 Jan Kell
 07/14 Lily Clausen
 07/14 Cara Swisher
 07/15 Matthew Sexton
 07/15 Christopher Turnbull
 07/17 Rosalie Cooper
 07/17 Philip Bastow
 07/18 Evelyn Styles
 07/18 Ed Yoder
 07/18 Chrissie Crosby



07/18 Rich Ellis
 07/18 Will Patton
 07/18 McClain Moran
 07/18 Alex Hambrick
 07/18 Beauden Bowers
 07/18 Jackson Woodward
 07/19 Kitty Montie
 07/19 Ben Dutton
 07/19 Rachael Knapp
 07/19 Claire Toman
 07/20 Eloise Payne
 07/20 William Gould
 07/21 Nancy Reuschel
 07/21 Regan Ralph
 07/21 Bear Burkhalter
 07/22 Win Huffman
 07/22 Dean Johnson
 07/22 Drew Low
 07/23 Suzanne Houck
 07/23 Steven Woodward
 07/24 Biz Van Gelder
 07/24 Edward King
 07/24 Anne Wilkes
 07/24 Will Henry
 07/25 C.T. Forrester
 07/25 Alison Rhoades
 07/25 Paige Packard
 07/26 Eliza Fite
 07/27 Steve Brown
 07/27 Diana Beckmann
 07/27 James Williams
 07/28 Dick Hobson
 7/29 Kathleen Ford
 07/29 Joseph Ford
 07/29 Darrel Wilson
 07/29 Eneida Balcarcel
 07/29 Corey Wargo-Bergmark
 07/30 Byron Hepburn
 07/30 Martin Sullivan
 07/31 Nancy Wise
 07/31 Christopher Henry

O God, 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 all the days of their lives; 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!

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office@icoh.net
http://www.icoh.net

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Link to July Calendar:

<http://tinyurl.com/julyICOH>

Lectionary Readings and
Schedule of Services



June 29, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42
8 a.m., HEI, 10:00 a.m., HEII

July 6, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38; 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 145:8-15; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
8:00 a.m., HEI; 10:00 a.m., HEII

July 13, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-24; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
8:00 a.m., HEI; 10:00 a.m., HEII