The Almond Tree

Newsletter of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

February 2019

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From The Rector

Grace and Gratitude: All You Need to Know About Stewardship

Any of you who have ever served on the Vestry at Immanuel will probably recognize these two words. They show up near the end of the agenda for every Vestry meeting, as those present name graces from our parish life, or their own lives, and their gratitude for them. One of my esteemed mentors, the Rev. Dr. Mark Anschutz, also says those words summarize all that we need to know about Stewardship.

First, grace connotes an unexpected, and certainly undeserved, gift. It is something that we did not make or earn. We Christians believe that God showers blessings upon us all of the time, starting with the great gift of life itself, and all of the essential items we need to survive, along with relationships, work, education, and this parish community, to name a few. We dare not forget the unparalleled grace of God becoming one with us in Jesus, living our life, dying our death, redeeming us, and defeating death in the process. Also in the category of graces we would include so many of the perhaps unseen gifts that have come together over the years to enable us to earn a living.

Acknowledging that we did not, and could not, provide or produce everything that goes along with having a career and making a living, we are then invited into a deep and ongoing spirit of gratitude. We are called to thank God for blessings seen and unseen, and we pray that our faith will deepen our capacity to give to others from these gifts and to give back to God and God's great purposes in the world.

This is really what Stewardship is all about. It is far more than just funding the parish budget, although that is vitally important in its own right, and our parish church needs and deserves the support of us all. What we are really talking about is a lifestyle, one that is often quite counter-cultural, as we stop regularly to give thanks and then ask how we can give back.

You may be aware that we have been trying to complete this year's Stewardship campaign at Immanuel. We are really close; the latest update puts us at $632,500 pledged towards a budgeted goal of $662,000. I believe we can meet that goal! We in the parish are invited to make a financial pledge in thanksgiving for God's blessings and towards the life, health, and growth of Immanuel in the year to come. Have you engaged that opportunity? Have you prayed about it? Will you?

That is an important step in the life of faith. But it is only one step along the much more fundamental journey of naming graces and expressing gratitude. What does grace look like in your life? How are you naming it, giving thanks, and giving back? It's not just a good thing to do; it's central to our faith as Christians.

See you in Church,

Randy

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.
Rector

Immanuel's Vestry
February 9, 2019

Let's Welcome our Newly Elected Members

Hance Haney

Kathryn Haskin

Danette (Dani) Kauffman

Martha Shimkin

Jim Wise…….....Senior Warden
Keith June ……...…….....Junior Warden
Karen Besser ……...…….....Senior Ministry and Fellowship
Jim Clausen…….…...Evangelism and Newcomers
Jamie Conrad…….....Stewardship
Mark Fearer……...…….....Pastoral Care
Hance Haney.....Communications
Kathryn Haskin.....Buildings and Grounds
Keith June ……...…….....Adult Formation and Discipleship
Danette "Dani" Kauffman.....Planned Giving
Chandley McDonald…….Outreach
Martha Shimkin…….....Worship
Hartley Wensing…….....…Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Guest Bishop Presides Over Confirmations

The Right Reverend Prince Singh, from the Diocese of Rochester, New York, made a special visit to Immanuel Chapel on Sunday, February 10th to preside over the confirmations of ten parishioners of Immanuel and its International Anglican Congregation. Bishop Singh served as Guest Preacher at the 8a.m. Eucharist, held in Zabriskie Chapel, and as both Guest Preacher and Celebrant at the 10:30 a.m. service held in Immanuel Chapel. The theme of his sermon was Leadership in the Church, the community, and the world, based on the day's Gospel reading of Luke 5:1-11.

Bishop Singh's cousin and parishioner Sujatha Augustine, and her husband Sanjiv Augustine hosted a very festive luncheon in Scott Lounge, VTS campus, featuring gourmet Asia Indian cuisine and standard American favorites. The Augustine's eldest child, Sameer, was among the confirmands; let's congratulate them all:

Sameer Aaron Augustine
Colin David Baird
Claire MacKenzie Campbell
Virginia Isabel Campbell
Thomas Pinkney Cuddy
Elise Marie Lein
Kiana Angela Wambui Macharia
Kianstone Nganga Macharia
Saadia Toya Raines
Judith Denise Ramgolan-Singh

(*From left*) The Rev. Peter Gachira, The Rev. Rachel Rickenbaker, Bishop Prince Singh, The Rev. Deacon Stephen Crippen, The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander (Rector), and The Rev. John Hogg

Surrounded by family and friends, Elise Marie Lein is confirmed.

The Augustine Family (*from left to right*): Amrita Frederick, Q.G. Frederick*, Roja Singh (*the Bishop's wife*), Sudhir Frederick, Sanjiv Augustine*, Sujatha Augustine*, Bishop Prince G. Singh, Sameer Augustine*, Navya Frederick, Sandhya Augustine*, Malathy Frederick*, Ponniah Paulraj, Vimala Paulraj, Joseph Paulraj, and Reisha Paulraj.

*Members of Immanuel

From Our Bishop

On Tuesday, February 12, 2019 — during our nation's observance of Black History Month — the Right Rev. Susan E. Goff sent the following letter to the entire diocese, addressing the state's current scandal involving the discovery and admission of past displays of racism by the Commonwealth's highest elected officials.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Two of the three highest elected leaders in our Commonwealth of Virginia are embroiled in scandal right now that touches the painful legacy of racism in our nation. White American culture once not only tolerated white people donning blackface, but embraced it as a form of entertainment. Yet it was always hurtful, demeaning and insulting to people of African descent. What was accepted back then was not acceptable, and it is not acceptable now.

We as people of faith, no matter what our race, gender or ethnicity, promise in our baptismal vows to respect the dignity of every human being. We also know the power of confession, so much so that we engage in the practice regularly. This current scandal provides us an opportunity to examine not only the lives of our political leaders, but to take a close look at our own lives. When have we done or said things that have diminished the dignity of others? In what activities have we engaged that were once accepted, but never acceptable? This scandal invites us to confess the ways we have fallen short of the image of God that is in us and to repent, to turn around and act in a different way.

The political realities of this current moment in our Commonwealth are complex, but our faith response is not. Out of our own confession and repentance, we can call for the repentance of our leaders. Above all, we can and must pray for them, for ourselves, for all who are hurt in any way by this scandal, and for the coming Kingdom of God in which God's dream of oneness for all humanity will finally be realized.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and

"When have we done or said things that have diminished the dignity of others? In what activities have we engaged that were once accepted, but never acceptable? This scandal invites us to confess the ways we have fallen short of the image of God that is in us and to repent, to turn around and act in a different way."

confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, page 815)

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, page 824)

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this Commonwealth, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, page 823)

Faithfully yours,

+Susan

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority

Get to Know The Reverend Deacon Stephen Crippen
Immanuel's Seminarian

It was a welcome surprise to learn that our new seminarian, who began last September, would have two rare distinctions: he is an ordained deacon, and he has a background in professional counseling. The Rev. Deacon Stephen Crippen hails from Seattle, and was ordained to the vocational diaconate in 2010 — see his note to you on his ministry in the box below. He is now in his second year of studies at Virginia Theological Seminary, in formation for the priesthood. He previously worked as a Lutheran parish musician, and a couple and family psychotherapist.

In addition to occasionally preaching at Sunday morning and Wednesday evening Eucharists, Deacon Stephen often leads forum hour. Don't miss his presentation "**Simon, Do You Love Me? One-on-One Reconciliation in the Christian tradition**" this Sunday, February 24th at 10:15a.m. in the Zabriskie Parish Hall, where he will focus on "reconciliation at its most basic level: two people repairing their relationship...and will bridge wisdom and theory from that work (work with couples in relationship) with the reconciliation modeled for us in the Gospels," especially in John 21.

Your next opportunity to hear Deacon Stephen preach — at the 8a.m, 9a.m, and 11:15a.m. Eucharists — is Sunday, March 3rd.

Finally, if you haven't done so already, please take a moment to introduce yourself the next time you see him.

Wait. Why Is Stephen Crippen already a deacon?!

Hi everyone!

I'm grateful and excited to be with you as your seminarian. I want to explain why, unlike most of your seminarians, I am already ordained as a deacon. In 2005, after being confirmed as an Episcopalian (having been born and raised Lutheran), I began discernment and formation for the vocational, or permanent, diaconate. All priests are first ordained deacons, but some people feel called to be ordained as permanent deacons, and not go on to the priesthood. I thought I was one of them, but by 2015 I could avoid the Holy Spirit no longer and began discernment and formation for the priesthood. Though I had already completed about half of an MDiv in my diaconal studies, my bishop in Seattle decided to send me into a different part of the world for a full 3-year seminary experience. My husband Andrew Stone and I have been here since last fall, and I am a member of the middler class. I look forward to working with you as I continue to learn and grow into my role as a minister in Christ's church!

Blessings,

Stephen Crippen

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2018

March 25th	Queen Anne's School Orchestra from Caversham, Berkshire, UK Chamber Recital on Palm Sunday Immanuel Chapel
April 1st	Easter Eucharists - 689 worshipers
May 16th	Thy Kingdom Come Vigil for Evangelism Zabriskie Chapel
May 26th - 28th	Parish-wide Retreat to Shrine Mont Orkney Springs, VA
June 2nd	John Hogg Ordination to the Diaconate; Immanuel Chapel
June 9th	The Rev. Deacon Halim Shukair's Ordination to the Priesthood The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul; Detroit, MI
June 18th	Zabriskie Parking Lot Repaving
July 14th	The Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru Mwangi, Anglican Bishop of Nairobi, Kenya Guest Preacher and Celebrant, Holy Eucharist II , Zabriskie Chapel followed by luncheon, hosted by Immanuel's International Anglican Congregation
August 20th -31st	Immanuel's Holy Land Pilgrimage Israel and Palestine
September 4th	Arrival of Immanuel's new Seminarian, the Rev. Deacon Stephen Crippen
September 15th	A Tale of Two Floods: Variety Entertainment Show (fundraiser to cover the flood of Zabriskie's lower level on May 31st) Zabriskie Chapel
September 23rd	Baptism of our Assistant Rector's first child, Eleanor Frances Aquia Episcopal Church, Stafford, VA The Rev. James Rickenbaker, Assistant Rector
September 30th	The Honorable Allison Silberberg, Mayor of Alexandria opens the most successful Pumpkin Patch ever, 25th Anniversary of Immanuel's Pumpkin Patch
October 14th	CYFM/EYC Eucharist in Stribling Apple Orchard, Markham, VA
December 1st	The Rev. John Hogg's Ordination to the Priesthood
December 9th	Senior Ministry's Advent Ceilidh Zabriskie Parish Hall
December 24th - 25th	Christmas Eve Pageant with The Immanuel Youth Orchestra, Brass Quartet, and violin; Christmas Midnight Mass ,and Christmas Day Holy Eucharists - 590 worshipers

TWO Peter Alexanders

CALLER: "*...We'd like to interview Peter Alexander at your church's Pumpkin Patch.*"

ALETA: "*Great! Do you have his parents' permission*?"

CALLER: "*What? Uh, Ma'am, we don't need his parent's permission...he's a grown man!*"

After learning of the mix-up — and sharing a good laugh — we were so pleased to learn that the two Mr. Peter Alexanders were able to meet.

Peter Alexander, NBC TV News anchor and Peter Alexander, Immanuel Acolyte and son of Immanuel's Rector, the Reverend J. Randolph Alexander and the Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander.

(From left to right) Jim Snow (securing a loose pole), Father Randy Alexander welcomes Mayor Silberberg, and Wendy John (in pumpkin apron).

Pumpkin Patch Results. Our 25th year of the Pumpkin Patch was a resounding success with an all-time record profit of $68,095! We also had a one-day sales record on Sunday, October 28, of $18,077. The profit break-down is as follows:

Pumpkins	$48,380
Crafts	1,980
Food	14,462
Donations	3,273
TOTAL PROFIT	**$ 68,095**

These monies will fund our 2019 Outreach Program which benefits over 30 regional, national, and international charities and ministries. Since 2000, when we started keeping detailed records, the Pumpkin Patch has raised $893,456 to fund our Parish Outreach. Since 1993, this funding has exceeded at least one million dollars.

This success could not have been accomplished without the hundreds of hours of hard work by scores of parishioners. We won't try to name everyone, because we'd inevitably make omissions. Suffice to say you know who you are – including those who unloaded the trucks, the day managers who opened and closed each day, the sales persons who manned the table through rain and shine, the bakers of delectable treats, the soup makers, the knitters, crafters, and the apple peelers producing our best-selling apple crisps, to name but a few. We also can't forget the unsung volunteers who, among other things, coordinated truck deliveries, who set up the patch and took it down, who manned telephones, and who dealt with publicity.

What we do is for Outreach. Because of your efforts, we help feed the hungry, house the homeless, provide medical care to the afflicted, educate children, and give hope to the friendless -- all in the name of Jesus. Well done, good and faithful servants of Immanuel!

- Jim Snow

Senior Ministry's Advent Ceilidh

The second of two truckloads of Christmas gifts Immanuelites donated to Christmas Families in need.

Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2018
Immanuel Chapel

She played the role of "Baby Jesus".

Assistant Rector's Daughter Baptized at Aquia Episcopal Church

As family, friends, clergy and a few Immanuelites look on, The Reverends Rachel and James Rickenbaker baptize their firstborn child, Eleanor Frances, named for their grandmothers.

The bodice of Eleanor's linen Isabel Garretón Christening gown was hand-embroidered with a custom design by Linda Tomlin, Director, The Williamsburg School of Needlework. The gown, bonnet, bib and booties were gifts to the Reverends Rickenbaker.

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Guest Preacher, and his wife, The Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander greet Eleanor and her mother.

The Rev. Rachel Rickenbaker's mother, Mrs. Shows, adjusts the back of her granddaughter's gown.

"Thank You, Immanuel Church–on-the-Hill"

A Letter from The Rev. Jo J. Belser, Church of the Resurrection

Dear Immanuelites,

Are you seeing some new faces as you arrive at Immanuel Chapel on Sunday morning? We are your neighbors from Church of the Resurrection, and we are truly grateful for the warm welcome and great generosity we have received from Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill.

Led by your rector at the time, the Rev. H. Coleman McGehee, Jr., the Diocese of Virginia's Department of Missions founded Resurrection in 1964 in response to the suburbanization of Alexandria's West End. Many of our initial parishioners and our first rector, the Rev. Jim Green came to us from Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. So, in some respects we are your child! We have been located less than two miles away during our entire 55 years, first at Hammond when it was a high school and then in our own building at the intersection of North Beauregard Street and Fillmore Avenue, next to Goodwin House.

Our church building is now closed and will be demolished later this year to make way for 113 units of affordable housing for working families and a new 5,000 square-foot church. Resurrection's members adopted this mission after a year-long discernment process and they see it as an unselfish Christian response to the need of our city, which has lost well over 90% of its affordable housing since 2000.

As we await the completion of our project in April 2021, we have been moved by the generosity of our neighboring faith communities. Thanks to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and Virginia Theological Seminary, we worship on Sundays in Immanuel Chapel, in the Oratory at 8:00 am and in the nave at 9:00 am, with Sunday School and post-worship adult formation in Meade Hall. We lead a joint Thursday-morning 8:00 am Bible study in your Fairchild Room and a joint monthly "Second Sunday" evening pot-luck and Forum in Zabriskie Hall. Our church offices are now at the seminary in the basement of the house at 3530 Aspinwall Road, which we call "Resurrection House." Our food pantry operates in the "mission house" of St. James United Methodist Church on Fillmore Avenue and the West End Lazarus financial ministry can now be found at Fairlington United Methodist Church. We hold monthly fellowship events, at present in the parish hall at Church of St. Clement. I may make these "Meet Ups" in differing fun locations nearby out in the community beginning in April (we will be sure to invite you to participate).

As you can imagine, all of this takes a lot of coordination, especially during Lent, Holy Week, Christmas, and Easter. We are very grateful to Rev. Randy and all of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill for your generosity in sharing your space and your flexibility in accommodating our worship, formation, and fellowship. We hope our two faith communities grow stronger together, given that we are two mission outposts collaborating in our witness for Christ Jesus.

We are working very hard to maintain our sense of community and mission during our time away from our own church building as we await fulfillment of the vision we first discerned in 2013. Please keep Resurrection, our project, and our people in your prayers—we will keep you in ours.

The Rev. Jo J. Belser
Rector
Church of the Resurrection, Alexandria

HILL HAPPENINGS

The Special Event Calendar of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Bible Study Every Thursday, 8a.m., The Fairchild Room

Shrove Tuesday is **March 5th**, so mark your calendars for a delicious pancake dinner in our parish hall beginning at 5p.m.

Tom Kerns can use all the help you can provide. Please call him at 703-965-4610 or his email tkerns@kernsgroup.com to volunteer.

We especially need folks who can come around 2p.m. to cook 50 pounds of bacon and sausage, plus a fresh clean-up crew at the end, perhaps around 7:30p.m.

Come hungry!

Second Sunday Potluck Fellowship Forum, March 10th, 6:30 p.m.

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP FORUM, March 10th, 6:30 p.m.

Church of the Resurrection invites Immanuel's parishioners to join them in the Parish Hall the second Sunday of each month for an, engaging potluck fellowship forum. **"Empathy: How is empathy the heart of Christian Faith?"** That's the topic for our next Sunday-evening Forum on March 10th. We will set-up at 6p.m, enjoy a potluck in the Parish Hall at 6:30p.m., then view clips from the 1995 movie "**To Kill a Mockingbird** (1962)" to learn about empathy. IMDB summarizes this movie as, "Atticus Finch, a lawyer in the Depression-era South, defends a black man against an undeserved rape charge, and his children against prejudice." Cleanup will begin by 8:30p.m..

"As followers of Jesus, we have been entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation. As Paul says in the 1st letter to the Corinthians..." All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

On **March 3rd,** please join us at 10:15a.m. in the Zabriskie Parish Hall for a very special forum on reconciliation around the world. We will welcome three seminarians, Guimond Pierre Louise from Haiti, the Rev. Shanthakumar "Suresh" Sureshkumar from Sri Lanka and Joe Hubbard from the Diocese of North Dakota. Each brings a unique perspective but all are using reconciliation to help in fostering peace in their contexts. Please join us in hearing how these leaders are using reconciliation ministry to address complex problems and realign relationships both individually and in their broader communities. We hope to see you there!

- Keith June

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO HELP WITH THE ORAL REHYDRATION THERAPY PROJECT:

For the 12th year Immanuel is teaming with our neighbors at Temple Beth El (to the West at 3830 Seminary Rd.) to prepare packets of dry ingredients which, when combined with boiled water, can alleviate suffering from diseases like cholera. The BIG EVENT of stuffing the packets, when we need as many volunteers as possible to participate for an hour or more or however long they can stay, happens on **Sunday, March 10th**, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Temple Beth El. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, see old friends and have wonderful conversations, all while making a difference in the world. Questions? Contact **Jim or Nancy Wise** at 703-642-8225 \(jrwise52@hotmail.com).

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR HAITIAN CHILDREN: The Haiti Micah Project (HMP) is one of Immanuel's long - standing outreach ministries that works with orphaned and at-risk children in Haiti, many of whom are among the poorest of the poor. Over the last decade, HMP has dealt with homeless refugees, a cholera epidemic, civil strife, and continuing economic hardships. Its ministry includes a meal program that provides a hot nutritious lunch to over 400 children each day, an orphanage for 29 children, and educational stipends in a country where education is not free or readily available.

Donations of any amount are needed, but parishioners are invited to sponsor a child for one year at a dollar a day ($365). Look for a sign-up board on the Usher's Table in the Zabriskie Narthex. Refer any questions to Jim Snow (**jamesbsnow@verizon.net**). Thank you.

CALLING ALL GRILL MASTERS! Do you like hanging around large grills with friends, cooking BBQ and pretending to call it work? Then we need you! The EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is hosting its annual Parish BBQ on **May 4th** and we invite anyone who wants to help cook and prepare **authentic**, **homemade**, **Southern BBQ** to join us on Friday **May 3rd**. We will gather several hours before sunrise — allowing early-risers who wish to cook *before* starting their workday to participate — and cook all day and night. We welcome helping hands and all skill-levels that want to help us. For more information, and to express your interest, please contact The Rev. John Hogg (jhogg@icoh.net).

THREE QUICK QUESTIONS, ONE Unique MINISTRY:

- ☩**Are you over the AGE OF 16?**
- ☩**Ever attend the 11:15 a.m. Eucharist in Immanuel Chapel?**
- ☩**Have little fear of basic technological gadgets?**

Consider joining the AV MINISTRY! We're looking for a few teens and/or adults to serve in our **AUDIO VISUAL TECH MINISTRY** for our late morning service. To join this unique lay ministry that helps your fellow parishioners hear the speakers and sermons more clearly, please contact the clergy or Aleta directly at **apowell@icoh.net** and we'll arrange for training. Thank you!

Senior Adult Ministry

MEET-N-GREET BROWN BAG LUNCHEON

to discuss Programming

Monday, April 1st at Noon
Zabriskie Parish Hall

BEVERAGES AND DESSERTS PROVIDED

To RSVP, send an email to Karen Besser, Senior Ministry and Fellowship, at Karen.Besser@gmail.com by Monday, March 25th.

June 1, 2019

Save the Date

DR. JANE TAVERNIER AND FRIENDS IN CONCERT
JUNE 1ST, ZABRISKIE CHAPEL AND PARISH HALL

Want a new and perfect start to your summer entertainment? Save the date for an all-classical chamber music concert to benefit the Assisi Music Festival — Dr. Tavernier visits Assisi, Italy each year — and the Immanuel Choir. All involved welcome your generous support.

Look for more details soon.

Looking Ahead: Letters of Faith from Prison, our Sunday Lenten Series

Please plan on joining our Sunday morning Lenten series, which will focus on several pivotal letters written by Christians who had been imprisoned during their ministry. These figures will include St. Paul, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Martin Luther King, Jr., among others. We will read passages from their letters, and additional reading suggestions will be offered. Look for more information in the weekly bulletins, the e-blast, and the next *The Almond Tree.*

- The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr., Rector

VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Lifelong Learning

UPCOMING EVENTS AT VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

February 23 | Workshop - Bowen Family Systems Theory:
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., $75. This introduction to Bowen Family Systems Theory is taught by the Rev. Jacques Hadler, VTS Adjunct Professor.

February 26 | Webinar – Intergenerational Preaching: Speaking to the Whole Room: 3 to 4 p.m., Free. The Rev. Mark Jefferson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Homiletics at VTS, and senior Seminarian Sarah Bentley Allred share their expertise and experiences in proclaiming the Gospel to all ages. Click here to register or visit https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a7GHuriUTF-vwrb6KUS_gA.

March 1 and 2 | A Two Woman Hamlet: 7:30 pm, Free. No matter how many different versions of *Hamlet* you've seen, you have never seen it like this: two women, armed with nothing but a fake skull, a real shovel, and a lot of imagination, performing Shakespeare's classic play. Click here to register. Or visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-two-woman-hamlet-at-vts-tickets-55214406777.

March 9 | Monastic Quiet Day at VTS: A Lenten Pilgrimage of the Heart
9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., $75. Come for a day of silence, prayer, monastic wisdom, and community as VTS becomes a monastery for a day. Led by Kurt Aschermann, experienced leader of Lay Pastoral Leader at Christ Church in Lucketts, Virginia. Friday night accommodations available for an extra fee. Click here to register or visit Eventbrite.com.

March 26 – April 30 | Evening Course – Reclaiming the Jewishness of Jesus
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings (six sessions), $120. Jesus wasn't a Christian; he lived and died as a Jew. Or did he? How does this impact our personal faith and our interfaith relationships? Jewish and Christian faith leaders will shed light on Jesus and his relationship to the Judaisms of his day and ours. Click here to register or visit Eventbrite.com..

March 28 – May 9 | Evening Course – To Be Holy Whole – A Journey into New Life :7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday evenings (six sessions), $120. How do we become whole? What is this journey at the heart of Christian faith? Dr. Timothy Sedgwick, Professor of Christian Ethics, leads a journey into the experience of "life in Christ," using presentations, reflections, conversations on sacred texts, and practices that offer invitations into a way of life both holy and whole. Click here to register or visit Eventbrite.com..

In Our March Issue:
New Lenten Series for 2019: **Letters of Faith from Prison**

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
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Alexandria, VA 22304-5200

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Lent and Easter 2019

Shrove Tuesday, March 5 Pancake Supper	5:00 p.m.	Zabriskie Parish Hall
Ash Wednesday, March 6 Imposition of Ashes	12 Noon	Zabriskie Chapel
	Family Holy Eucharist with Children's Homily, 6p.m.	Zabriskie Chapel
	7:30p.m.	Zabriskie Chapel
Palm Sunday, April 14	8:00a.m.	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:15a.m.	Gather at the Old White Post Office, VTS Campus, for Bagpiper-led Palm Sunday Procession
	10:30a.m.	Immanuel Chapel
Maundy Thursday, April 18	7:30 p.m.	Immanuel Chapel
Good Friday, April 19 Stations of the Cross Good Friday Liturgy	Noon	Immanuel Chapel
	7:30p.m.	Immanuel Chapel
Holy Saturday, April 20 The Great Vigil of Easter	7:30p.m.	Immanuel Chapel
Easter Sunday, April 21	7:30a.m	Zabriskie Chapel
	9:15a.m.	Immanuel Chapel
	11:15am.	Immanuel Chapel