

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

February 22, 2026

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST we welcome you
to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill!**

Immanuel is an Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, and is part of the world-wide Anglican Communion. Immanuel was founded by the Virginia Theological Seminary. We are one parish that worships in two locations: the Zabriskie Chapel (3606 Seminary Road), and Immanuel Chapel (3737 Seminary Road) on the seminary grounds. Immanuel Chapel offers a fully-staffed nursery for our infant and toddler parishioners.

Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card — located in the pews or display stands at the entrances of the chapels. Please give your card to an usher or place in the collection plate. Thank you. For the latest information on our online worship service and to view a video of our most recent service, please visit our website (www.icoh.net).

PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS: Ann MacNamara, Carolyn Ferguson, Catherine Sinclair, Charlene Murphy, Chris von Schoening, Craig Jackson, Cynthia Morton, Debbie Hewson, Dick and Norma Taliaferro, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Gordon Johnson, Hugh Campbell, Jane, Jim Hobson, Jim and Nancy Wise, Joseph, Kenny, Marcus, Marda Robillard, Mary Ann Rehnke, Mary Jane Ruhl, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Rollin Huntington, Thom Hussey, and Wendy Hoge.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Andrew Davis, Ann Langdon Days, Ann Woodward, Barbara Kellner, Barbara Sagan, Becky Smith, Betsy Fox Berry, Brian and Joyce, Brian Van Buskirk, Bridget Rice Rose, Caleb Lusk, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Cy Murphy, Donna Becker, Frances, George Rustigian, Gerry, Gerry and Nan Hardison, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jean Couban, Jill Perkins, Jodi Wilson, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Karen Landry, Leea Gorman, Lilly Pinner, Linda Taucher, Louise Jackson, Lysbeth, Madeline, Marcia Richardson, Margie Lidoff, Mary Horner, Mary Muniz, Matt, McQuade Milligan, Melvyn and Stacy, Michael, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Sofia, Soundary Dilan, Stacey, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Thomas Henry, Tim Williams, Wesley Johnson, and Winnie Kidd.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Denise Freeland, John Walker, Teddy Yates, Susan Cavanaugh, Sarah Clement, Thom Hussey, Kathy Lloyd, Spencer Wise, Jan Campbell, Betsy DeMulder, Susan Wiard, Holden Rush, and Juliet Houck.

Pray for those serving around the world: Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, Scott, and Philip Pretzinger.

Those who have died: Susan Taylor Montague, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, and the victims of avalanche near Lake Tahoe, California. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Lenten Series FORUM HOUR Begins TODAY: *Commending the Faith that is in Us:*



What might you say when someone asks what you believe?

“Eternal Life” presented by **The Very Rev. Ian Markham, Ph.D.**

In a world where Christian believers are surrounded by non-believers, skeptics, and truth seekers, believers will increasingly be asked what they believe, and why. Those inquiring will expect credible answers, yet many Christians fear they wouldn't know what to say, or even how to begin to engage these honest questions. We will engage typical questions, as they might come from seekers/sceptics and from fundamentalist Christians, even role-playing some possible responses together. Join us at **11:15a.m. in the Welcome Center today** to hear the Dean and President of VTS, **Dean Markham**, discuss *Eternal Life*. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All are welcome to participate

Morning Prayer Tuesday, February 24th @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Wednesday Holy Eucharist Rite II, February 25th @ 12 Noon, Zabriskie Chapel

Quiet Prayer, Wednesday, February 25th @ 5:15 p.m., Oratory Chapel at Immanuel Chapel

NEW Weekly Bible Study: “*The Book of Genesis*” Thursday, February 26th
@10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

Compline this Friday, February 27th@ 8:30 p.m., online via Zoom

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with *The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs*: February 25th

Join Mother Sarah *this Wednesday, February 25th* at 10 a.m. for coffee and fellowship at the Alexandria Pastry Shop. All are invited to attend.



Interested in being Confirmed or Received? Might you want to re-affirm your faith publicly?

Would you or your teenager like to learn more about our faith and deepen participation in the life of the Church? Have you been confirmed in another Christian tradition but never received formally into the Episcopal Church? Might it be time to make a new and deeper public affirmation of your faith?

The [Sacrament of Confirmation](#) offers us the opportunity to renew the promises made for us at Baptism and to seek God's strength as we continue to keep those baptismal promises in our lives. Confirmation and Reception take place as part of Bishop Stevenson's visit, which will occur at Immanuel on **March 15, 2026**.

Please contact Father Randy (ralexander@icoh.net) Mother Sarah (sspurlockbiggs@icoh.net) with any questions as we begin to prepare.



Every Member Pledge Campaign Update: Thank you to all who have made a financial commitment to support our parish — vital to the life of this institution. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so promptly. You may return the pledge card that was mailed to you, pledge by scanning the QR code at right, or pledge through our website [our website](#), and click the green “Pledge Here” button.

As of February 19th, we have received 131 pledges so far, totaling \$688,450. This includes several new pledges and many who increased from last year. We hope for a total of \$725,000.

We thank everyone who has pledged thus far.



UPCOMING FORUM HOURS: 2026 Lenten Series *Commending the Faith that is in Us: What might you say when someone asks what you believe?*

March 1st

Zabriskie Parish Hall



THE INCARNATION AND BAPTISM

Lisa Kimball, Ph.D., Vice President for Lifelong Learning and the James Maxwell Professor Chair of Lifelong Christian Formation, Virginia Theological Seminary
Please note change of location to Zabriskie for this presentation.

March 8th

The Welcome Center
VTS Campus



THE BIBLE

The Rev. Kathy Grieb, Ph.D., Director Center for Anglican Communion Studies and Professor in New Testament, Virginia Theological Seminary

March 15th

The Welcome Center
VTS Campus



THE CHURCH

The Rt. Rev. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of Virginia
(who will be with us for his visitation and Confirmation)

March 22nd

The Welcome Center
VTS Campus



THE RESURRECTION AND ATONEMENT

The Rev. Sarah Coakley, Ph.D., Priest Associate Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, former professor at Harvard Divinity School and Cambridge University



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

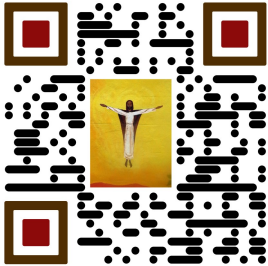
Brown Bag Lunch THIS Tuesday @ 12:15 p.m., Zabriskie Parish Hall

Our brown bag program this month is a video of the lecture delivered by the **Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde** at the Albert T. Mollegen Forum, held at VTS on February 3rd. Her topic was **The Politics of Mercy** and it is sure to inspire conversation.

Join us in the Parish Hall at **12:15pm on Tuesday, February 24**. Bring your own sandwich or salad, and drinks and dessert will be provided. No RSVP is necessary.

Are you looking for a way to grow your relationship with Jesus during this Lenten Season?
Join us for a Lenten book study and discussion on the thought provoking book:
***The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions*, by Marcus Borg and NT Wright**

What kinds of questions have you had about Jesus? Have you ever wondered if he knew that he was the Messiah? Have you ever been curious about how the resurrection could have occurred? Borg and Wright tackle these and other tough questions and come up with very different answers despite both being leaders in the Anglican tradition.



What: Book study and discussion about *The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions*, by Marcus Borg and NT Wright. You can easily purchase the book from your favorite book seller.

Who: A collaboration between two Episcopal churches, facilitated by VTS seminarians **Cami Caudill** (St. Dunstan's) and **Signa Strom** (Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill),

When: Thursdays at 7pm from **February 19th - March 19th** (5 weeks total)

Where: Meets on Zoom. Scan QR code to receive Zoom link.

<https://forms.gle/98FBVQmuXPDamfVa6>



***If you are seeking to deepen your spiritual life, come to our biweekly
Benedictine Community via Zoom***

If you want more contemplation in your life, you are invited to become part of the Benedictine Community at Immanuel. We regather in this new year 2026 for reflection – with a new spiritual resource – beginning **Tuesday, March 3rd** and meet (virtually) twice a month on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 7 p.m-8p.m.** As a community, we reflect on how the tenets of St. Benedict, such as humility, silence, and prayer, can guide us in practical ways in our spiritual lives and our day-to-day endeavors. Individual reflection is guided by short readings from a Benedictine-inspired book. We begin on February 3 to reflect on a new book: *Seeking God by Esther De Waal*.

If you are interested but can't join as we begin anew on February 17, that's fine, too. We welcome those interested to join us anytime. Our focus each week is primarily on reflections sparked by having read a few pages from the book. Our Benedictine Community gather as companions on the journey with one another while drawing wisdom from selected reading material and the ancient traditions and wisdom of Benedictine practice and prayer. With half or more of our current members residing outside of the area, we are using Zoom for our meetings, but if you are not comfortable with the video aspects of Zoom, you can simply call on the telephone and be connected to the Community by voice-only via Zoom. If this opportunity appeals to you or for more information, please contact Dana Hengst (dana.hengst@gmail.com), Barbara Fornoff (cr8vweaver@gmail.com) or David Atwood (David_Atwood@hotmail.com).



Help others find Immanuel!

Your review on Google can help people searching for a faith community. It only takes a minute.

- ☆ Scan the QR code at right
- ☆ Sign in to your Google account (*it's free to create one if you don't have one*)
- ☆ Click "Write a Review"
- ☆ Share a few sentences about your experience

Your words may be exactly what someone needs!





SIGN-UP TO SERVE: IT'S EASY AND ONLINE

Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through April 2026* ONLINE by visiting the landing page of our website at ICOH.net and clicking our **Red SignUp Genius Button** or scanning the QR code at left. If you're a student planning to spend occasional weekends home, feel free to **sign-up for only a Sunday or two**. Training for all lay ministries available upon request. **THANK YOU for your participation!**

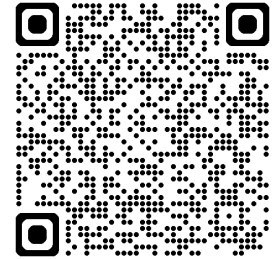


Immanuel Spring 2026 Retreat: We welcome everyone to join us for Immanuel's first local contemplative retreat.

Retreating is a restorative practice of Sabbath keeping. Join us as we explore a practice of holy rest and renewal, and ways to intentionally open ourselves to God's ever-presence in day-to-day life.

This retreat is for everyone! If you...

- have an interest in retreats, but are unable to take a weekend away;
- are not sure about retreats, and would like to try it out;
- are looking to learn about different contemplative practices; or
- love retreats and would like to take any and every opportunity to be on one ...this retreat is for you.



The retreat will be on **Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 9am to 2pm**, at Bicentennial Hall, on the campus of Virginia Theological Seminary. A light lunch will be served.

If you are interested, please [click here](#) to register for the retreat. The registration deadline is Monday, March 23. Please reach out to Katherine Maas at katherinemaas@gmail.com with any questions.



Immanuel came through with flying colors in the last month, bringing in 1,011 pounds of food for Alive ! Well done!!



We didn't correctly predict the Super Bowl winner ([Congrats Seattle!](#)) but our final week "Soup-er Bowl" helped us surpass the half-way point of our 2026 goal. The next month for collecting food will be June, then November for diapers /wipes and formula.

Alive! depends on volunteers to help our neighbors in need, simply scan the QR code at left to see where you can help. And thank you!

Lisa Clausen

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. (ralexander@icoh.net)	..... Rector
The Rev. Susan D. Parsons (sparsons@icoh.net)	..... Associate Rector
The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs (sspurlockbiggs@icoh.net)	..... Associate Rector
Signa Strom (sstrom@vts.edu)	..... Seminarian
Beatrice Osumba (bosumba@vts.edu)	..... Seminarian
Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net)	..... Director of Music
Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net)	..... Parish Administrator
Tim Lawhorn	..... Sexton
Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net)	..... Treasurer
Mollie Lambert (mlambert@icoh.net)	..... Assistant Treasurer
Mike Morgan (mmorgan@icoh.net)	..... Finance Manager
Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net)	..... Audio Visual Technician
Mina Sultani	..... Nursery Director
Miguelina “Mimi” Guzmann	..... Hospitality Assistant

THE VESTRY

Mark Fearer	..... Senior Warden
Brian Ply	..... Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds
Doug Onley	..... Junior Warden: Administration
Brian Rush	..... Social Justice
Diana Walker	..... Worship, Pastoral Care
Rich Hobson	..... Outreach
Jennifer W. Greiner	..... Adult Formation and Discipleship
Dave John	..... Fellowship
Taylor Houck	..... Stewardship and Planned Giving, Registrar
Mary Ann Ring	..... Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, Newcomers, and Evangelism
Jim Kurz	..... Senior Ministry
Martin Horne	..... Communications
Sydney Onley	..... Youth Representative

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, *First Sunday of every month*
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel
 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

Online

www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org
[Immanuel's YouTube channel](#)

PRIESTS ASSOCIATE

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Coakley
 The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke
 The Rev. Jan A. Maas
 The Rev. John R. Smucker
 The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade

RECTOR EMERITA

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann (Sam) Faeth

MISSION STATEMENT: Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition, striving to be in relationship with God and each other as Christ has taught us, actively attempting to sense and to serve God’s plan with great love. We are guided by Mark 16:15: “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,” to learn, discern, and proclaim the Good News by being active ministers in the various communities where we live and serve.



PARISH OFFICE
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304
 Telephone: 703•370•6555, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
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Ways to GIVE