

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

August 18, 2024

IN THE NAME OF 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. Both chapels offer 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. 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, Barbara Ramsdale, Catherine Sinclair, Cynthia Dolvin, Cynthia Morton, Cy Murphy, Francine Wargo, Gary DeVight, Gilma Balcarcel, Jane Flinn, Joseph, Kenny, Kitty Montie, Lucy, Martin, Marianne Ingold, Mable Randolph, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Norma Taliaferro, Rollin Huntington, Sarah Spurlock Biggs, Susan Kernan, Patsy Rogers, Wendy Hoge, Zuzanna and Spencer.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Ann Langdon Days, Ashleighana, Barbara Sagan, Betsy Fox Berry, Betty Hicks, Brian and Joyce, Bridget Rice Rose, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Dana De Cecco, Dorothy Gerhart, Fred Vipperman, George Rustigian, Gerald, Jack Allen, Jean Couban, Jean Williams, Jennie Rae, Jessi Napolitano, Jill Lane, Joanne Perla, Joe Micelli, Joseph Fabian, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Joyce Di Misa, Kathryn Anschutz, Kathy, Porter, the Rev. Kelly Moughty, Lillian Kozuma, Lilly Pinner, Linda Gill, Louise Jackson, Lucie Bauer, Lysbeth, Marcia McDonald, Michael, Marcia Richardson, Mark Vipperman, Marty Childs, McQuade Milligan, Mary Muniz, Pamela, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rebecca Smith, Richard Zitelli, Rosemary Wensing, Ryan Willis, Shawn Rush, Shelby Ochs Owen, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Sue Rehnke, Susan Little, and Winnie Kidd.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Marty Christino, Brian Rush Jr., Mark DeMulder, William Scharnweber, Jonie Eaton, Susan Johnson, Marilyn Wilson, Lily Bertles, Stephen Kellogg, Melissa Low, Chloe Maratta, Elizabeth Mason, Emma Packard, Carol Gabriel, Lindsay McGahuey-Yates, Lana Rustigian Lewis, Dodd Sims, Kevin Switaj, Steve Chill, Laura Cohn, Riley Larson, and Catherine Sinclair.

Serving around the world: Noah Barker, Ian Phillips, Todd Bates, Jason Osborne, Michael Hussey, and Jonathan, Nicole, Alina and Nolan Anderson, and Scott.

Those who have died: Jim Swink, associate of Jane Tavernier. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

We will gather again this Wednesday, August 21st.

Join her on August 21st from **10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**, at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. All are welcome!

COME VISIT OR JOIN THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE FOR OUR MONTHLY FOURTH TUESDAY MEETING: The social justice committee, active since 2021, invites you to join us as we discuss various upcoming initiatives via Zoom on **Tuesday August 27 at 7:30 PM**. The meeting [Zoom link is here](#), and you can also get in touch with [Kathryn Haskin](#) (Committee Chair) or [Mark Fearer](#) (Vestry Steward) for additional information.

Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All are welcome to participate

Morning Prayer Tuesday, August 20th @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Noonday Holy Eucharist Rite II, Wednesday, August 21st, Zabriskie Chapel

NEW Weekly Bible Study

“The Book of Esther and the Apocryphal Additions”

Thursday, August 22nd @ 10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

Evening Compline, Friday, August 23rd @ 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

Immanuel's Children's Chapel meets each Sunday, 10:00 -10:25a.m, The Oratory at Immanuel Chapel: (The Oratory is a small chapel on the other end of the hallway—opposite the parlor/ coffee hour). Our Children's Chapel is a 25-minute service rich with prayer, Bible stories, music, and reflections to teach our children about God's love. **All are welcome!**

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY EVENT

August 27: ICE CREAM SOCIAL & HYMN SING

THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH AT GOODWIN HOUSE. Please join us for luncheon and conversation in the Fillmore Room at Goodwin House-Alexandria. We gather at noon on the third Wednesday of the month, AUGUST 21st. Please RSVP to the Rev. Susan if you are not a resident of Goodwin House Alexandria and to Barbara Kirkland if you are a resident.

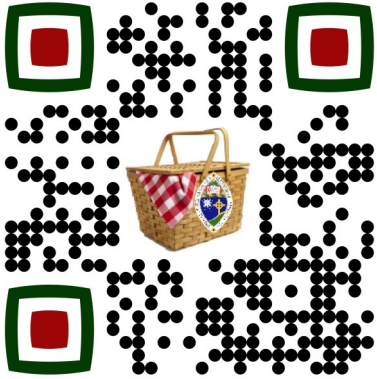
SPECIAL FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH. Please come on Tuesday, August 27th, for an end-of-summer event in the Parish Hall. We will gather with our sandwiches and salads at 12:15 p.m., as usual, for conversation. Then, at 12:45 p.m. we will move to the Chapel, where Dr. Jane Tavernier will play the organ for a hymn sing that isn't confined to Christmas carols. Call out the number of your all-time favorite and sing along with gusto on those lyrics that fill you with joy! Finally, at 1:30, we will return to the Parish Hall for ice cream, all the trimmings, and fresh peaches from Catoctin Mountain Orchard. Join us for one, two or ALL THREE parts of this festive time to celebrate these glorious last days of summer. There is no reservation requirement and no cost to this event and, as always, friends, neighbors, and family members are welcome.

EYC (grades 6-12) Save-the-Date: September 15!

Apple Picking and Eucharist in the Orchard on Sunday, September 15 @ Stribling Orchard! We will carpool from the Zabriskie parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Mark your calendars and reach out to the Rev. Sarah (sspurlockbiggs@icoh.net) to help or with any questions.

Come One, Come All to **HOMECOMING** Sunday September 8th!

Everyone is encouraged to invite family, friends, and neighbors to our Homecoming Sunday, September 8th. Our Immanuel Choir will return at the 10:30a.m. Eucharist, followed by a festive potluck picnic in the Zabriskie Parish Hall and Garden. More details to come, so please mark your calendars; however, you can volunteer for food donations now.



Traditionally for our potluck, we assign dishes to bring based on last names. This year, we've chosen to create a SignUp Genius so that **parishioners can choose what they'd like to donate**. Simply find this bulletin on our website under "Worship/Worship Service Bulletins", then click the blue text "[Homecoming Potluck Picnic](#)" or scan the QR code at left to choose a dish to bring. You could make a cash donation instead ([highlighted in yellow in the description on our SignUp Genius form](#)) and the church will use the money to shop wholesale for food categories without donors, and additional picnic necessities.

JUNIOR WARDEN BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS UPDATE

Please take a moment to notice and appreciate all the Buildings and Grounds projects completed in July 2024:

- ✓ Arborist tree care on Zabriskie and Rectory grounds to improve the safety, appearance and health of 30 trees.
- ✓ Garden work day July 20 to weed and care take gardens.
- ✓ Removal of a bald faced hornet nest from a magnolia tree on Zabriskie grounds.
- ✓ Eagle Scout project to restore the Memorial Garden contemplative path and repaint two carts used for the pumpkin patch.
- ✓ HVAC maintenance in Vestry Upper Room, offices, and outside.
- ✓ New electrical outlet installed in the church office copy room for a future new copier.
- ✓ New door handle installed on Narthex bathroom.
- ✓ City of Alexandria approved Kitchen Drawings with minimal HVAC upgrades resulting in cost savings.

Coming up: Parking lot cracks sealing.

PLEASE JOIN US!

- ✓ **September 11**, Buildings and Grounds meeting at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Interested parishioners may contact Tom Kerns.
- ✓ 1st Tuesday of the month, Creation Care meeting at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Interested parishioners may contact Denise Freeland at eco.voce@verizon.net with an email request to receive the Zoom link for participation.

Mark Your Calendars!

The 3rd Annual Immanuel Blood Drive will be on Sunday, November 24, from noon to 4p.m. in the Zabriskie Chapel's parking lot. More details to come; please out to Katherine Maas at katherinemaas@gmail.com with any questions.



SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE POSTED ONLINE

EASY WAY TO SIGN UP LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL 2024: Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through September* ONLINE by visiting the landing page of our website at www.ICOH.net via Our **Red SignUp Genius Button**: We're uploading months in advance, so please sign up to serve as a Reader, Intercessor, Usher, Acolyte, Altar Guild Server, Crucifer and/or Coffee Hour Host online via [SignUp Genius](http://www.ICOH.net) for Immanuel by visiting the landing page of our website at www.ICOH.net and [clicking on the red button](#).

If you need training for a particular ministry, please contact Mother Susan at sparsons@icoh.net.

THANK YOU — especially to all who have signed-up!

SEEKING MEMBERS FOR THE LAY COMMITTEE FOR OUR NEW SEMINARIAN

If you would like to serve on a small group that will meet with and support our new seminarian, Beatrice Osumba, please email the Rev. Susan Parsons, at sparsons@icoh.net.

Join the Immanuel Tables at The First-Ever REGIONAL FUNDRAISING DINNER OF THE VIRGINIA INTERFAITH CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY (VICPP) Sunday, September 22nd at 5:00 p.m. at VTS

Immanuel has long been active in VICPP, which works to see that our state does business in ways that accord with the teachings of the major religions. There will be awards, an inspiring speaker, possibly from Alfred Street Baptist Church, and the **All Dulles Area Muslim Society Youth Choir** will perform a few selections. Immanuel is sponsoring two tables of 10, and parishioners (and their guests) can attend for a modest \$25 contribution to VICPP. It will be a great opportunity to support an effective group and to meet fellow supporters from other local places of worship. Immanuel's seats are first-come, first-serve — let Jamie Conrad know if you'd like one or more, or if you have questions at (jwc58@comcast.net). Hope to see you there!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: **GODLY PLAY**

This fall we are expanding Godly Play to serve kids aged 8-11 as well as the youngsters aged 4-7. To serve more children we will need more helpers! Would you like to join our dedicated crew? We need volunteers ages 14 and up (including adults). In Godly Play we help children to experience God through the stories that are foundational to our faith, and to think about the nature of God in their lives.

Storytellers guide the children through the week's story and facilitate their exploration of the story through "I wonder" questions. Immanuel is hosting an in-person **Storyteller training on September 7th, from 8am-5:30pm**. If you're interested in participating in the training, email Rev. Sarah by August 30th to reserve a spot. (Please note that Storytellers must be 18 or older.)

Greeters are an important part of the Godly Play experience. They help to welcome the children, prepare them to come into the Godly Play space and support the Storyteller and the circle of children throughout the session. If you're interested in serving in this role, please contact Rev. Sarah for more information. (Please note that Greeters must be at least 14 years old).

Those who have volunteered for this program for a while, find it can spark wondering questions for us, and enrich our own faith journeys. If you would like to learn more, please contact the Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs (sspurlockbiggs@icoh.net) and Sarah Glassco (glasscos@gmail.com)

CREATION CARE: Immanuel’s Creation Care Ministry announces the "*Season of Creation 2024*," which Episcopalians and other Christians around the world are honoring from September 1 through October 4. It is a time to reflect, learn, and act as people of faith to care for and respect all living things with whom we share our planet. Creation Care offers the following prayer for all of us to use between now and October 6. Immanuel will celebrate with a Creation-themed worship service on October 6.

Our Care of Creation Prayer

O God, Creator of heaven and earth,
you allowed life to evolve, and you love the natural world:
each plant and animal, each mountain and river,
each ray of sunshine, wave of water, and breath of fresh air.
In our beginning, you commanded us to care for your creation;
open our eyes to see the goodness of the earth;
train our hearts to respect all creation as a gift from you;
and shape our lives to behave in ways that are loving toward
all creatures great and small, for you, God, made them all. Amen.

Fall Retreat “*NEW PEOPLE IN OLD STORIES*” Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, Virginia November 8-10

In the midst of our overly scheduled lives full of many responsibilities, it is helpful to take time for a spiritual retreat – to be aware of God’s presence, to reflect on the course of our lives, and to ask what is God asking us to do in our daily lives. The Rev. Dr. Frank Wade, our retreat leader, will assist us in this process by focusing his programs on scripture.

For over four thousand years Judaism has been enriched by an approach to scripture known as midrash, a Hebrew word meaning “to seek or inquire.” It involves raising questions the biblical text does not address. The earliest known inquiry was “Why didn’t Adam talk Eve out of eating the apple?” While that might not be a compelling question for our day, the discovery of the original midrash group is relevant. They found that by carefully exploring questions ‘off the grid’ of the biblical text, they were encountering God in new ways. During our time together we will use this ancient practice which relies on imagination as well as scholarship to seek new insights into familiar Bible stories.

[The Rev. Dr. Frank Wade is well known to Immanuelites as he serves as one of our priest associates and shares insights through occasional Sunday sermons and forums. His professional work includes a book on marriage, *The Art of Being Together*, which is in its third printing. Church Publishing Company released his second book, *Transforming Scripture*, in 2008. His third book, *Biblical Fracking: Midrash for the Modern Christian*, was published in 2019. He is an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria and has taught Pastoral Theology at both General and Virginia Seminaries. He has served as Interim Dean of Washington National Cathedral and Interim Dean of Students at Virginia Seminary. In addition to the program sessions, the Rev. Dr. Wade will be available for one-on-one conversations.](#)

The retreat will be held at Holy Cross Abbey in the foothills of Blue Mountains by the Shenandoah River on a 1,200-acre farm near Berryville, Virginia, where Cistercian monks have been praying seven times a day since 1950. The monks observe silence at all times to aid reflection, prayer, and listening to God. During our retreat, long periods of time will be devoted to silence. For more information about Holy Cross Abbey, consult their website, <https://www.virginiatrappists.org>. The Abbey is an hour and fifteen-minute drive from Alexandria.

The retreat will begin Friday afternoon, November 8, shortly before the evening meal and will end after the noon meal on Sunday, November 10. There will be ample time for worship, prayer, and exploring the outdoors as weather permits.

The \$350.00 registration fee includes all materials, comfortable accommodations, individual rooms each with a bathroom, and all meals. Registration forms are in the bulletin and are available on the Immanuel website https://www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org/uploads/7/4/6/1/74619583/fall_retreat_registration_form_2024.pdf.

Please submit your registration form and check to the church office, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA. 22304 by Friday, September 27.

Two scholarships given in memory of Charles Willis are available; please contact the rector to request scholarship assistance. If you receive a scholarship, please complete a registration form and indicate that you have a scholarship.

If you have questions about retreat logistics, contact Mary Ann Rehnke, mfrb2695@gmail.com. Participants needing a ride to the Abbey or those wishing to volunteer to provide a ride may contact the retreat carpooling coordinator, Katherine Maas, katherinemaas@gmail.com.

**Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Fall Retreat
Holy Cross Abbey Retreat House
November 8-10, 2024**

First person registering for retreat

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Second person registering for retreat

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Number of registrants _____ x \$350 = _____ Total registration fee

Please make check payable to Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill and write Fall Retreat 2024 on the check. Return this form and your check to the Immanuel Church office, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304 **by Friday, September 27**. Please put Fall Retreat 2024 on the envelope.

If you need to cancel your registration and there is no one on the waiting list who can take your place, Holy Cross Abbey retains the \$75.00 per room deposit. All but \$75.00 of your registration fee would be returned to you.

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) Assistant Rector
 Dr. Jane Tavernier (jtavernier@icoh.net) Director of Music
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) Treasurer
 Mollie Lambert (mlambert@icoh.net) Assistant Treasurer
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) Parish Administrator
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net) Audio Visual Technician
 Gilma Balcarcel Nursery Coordinator
 Stuart Dahlinger Sexton

THE VESTRY

Gerry Anderson Senior Warden and Senior Ministry
 Amy Thomas Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Creation Care
 Peter Kent Junior Warden: Administration
 Taylor Houck Adult Formation and Discipleship
 Brad Ashton and Philip Brown Stewardship and Planned Giving
 Julie Bruns Outreach
 Kathy Lloyd Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
 Mark Fearer Social Justice and Pastoral Care
 Brian Rush Evangelism and Newcomers
 Matt Haskin Worship
 Philip Brown Fellowship
 Caroline Bergmark Registrar, Communications
 Sophie Johnson, Sydney Onley, David Lloyd, and Isabelle Young-Smith Youth Representatives

SCHEDULE OF SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

10:30 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. 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 SUMMER HOURS

Weekdays 9:00a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304
 Telephone: 703-370-6555, Fax: 703-370-0837

www.icoh.net



Ways to GIVE