

# IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

## Parish Notes

### May 25, 2025

**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](http://www.icoh.net)).

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:** Aggie Fortune, Agnes Soos, Ann MacNamara, Catherine Sinclair, Craig Jackson, Cynthia Morton, Cy Murphy, David Phillips, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Gilma Balcarcel, Gordon Johnson, Jim Wise, Joan Raybold, John Richards, Joseph, Kenny, Kitty Montie, Lynn Gas, Marcus, Melissa Ennis, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Norma Taliaferro, Rollin Huntington, and Wendy Hoge.

**PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Ann Ridenour, Ann Langdon Days, Ann Woodward, Andrew Davis, Barbara Sagan, Betsy Fox Berry, Brian Tolson, Bridget Rice Rose, Cadence Claypoole, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Dana De Cecco, Donna Becker, Dorothy Gerhart, Gerry, Dwight and Mary Horner, Emily, George Rustigian, Gerald, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jackie Claypoole, Jean Couban, Jessi Napolitano, Joe Micelli, José Maria, Joseph Fabian, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Joyce Smith, Judi Rhodes, Louise Jackson, Lucie Bauer, Lysbeth, Marcia Richardson, MariAnn Hollis, Michael, Mary Muniz, Pamela, Patricia, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Richard Zitelli, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Ryan Willis, Soundary Dilan, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Tim Williams, Wanda, Wesley Johnson, and Winnie Kidd.

**Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week:** Army Robinson, Deborah Kirby, Anna Skubel, Nancy Bishop, Jackie Rustigian, Patsy Rogers, Charles Ablard, Deborah Drennon, Rachel Manson, Richard Rogers, Carolyn Ferguson, Hal Johnson, Beth Trerotola, Frank Martin, and Erik Scharnweber.

**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:** Roberta DuTeil, grandmother of Jennings Reading; Robert Rarick, nephew of Marcus Rarick; and the victims of the deadly tornados in Kentucky and Missouri. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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Funeral for **CYNTHIA BURRESS DOLVIN**  
Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 11:00 A.M., Zabriskie Chapel



*Celebrate the* **FEAST OF PENTECOST IN ZABRISKIE CHAPEL**  
**8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M., JUNE 8TH**



All Immanuelites are encouraged to bring their friends and family to Zabriskie Chapel on June 8th to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost— **both Eucharists will be held in Zabriskie.**

We encourage all foreign language readers to sign-up online via the QR code at the bottom of page 8 of this bulletin, and our famous cooks to sign-up for the potluck — that will follow the 10:30a.m. service — at the top of page 9.

# Announcements

## WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

*All are welcome to participate*

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Morning Prayer Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

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Noonday Holy Eucharist Rite II, Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, Zabriskie Chapel

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Weekly Bible Study: “*The Gospel of Luke*”  
Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup> @10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.  
*Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.*

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Compline, Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00 p.m, online via Zoom

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## WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD *with The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs*

Join Rev. Sarah for conversation over coffee this Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. All are welcome!



## LEARN ALL ABOUT POPE LEO XIV: SATURDAY, MAY 31ST, 7:30 P.M., ZABRISKIE PARISH HALL

Dignity NoVA invites all Immanuelites to attend their post-mass presentation about the new pope led by guest presenter **Francis “Frank” DeBernardo**. We’ll join Father Harry and the Dignity congregation in the Parish Hall at or slightly before 7:30 p.m. for the presentation over refreshments.

Francis DeBernardo has ministered at New Ways Ministry since 1992, and has served as Executive Director since 1996. He has conducted programs on LGBTQIA issues and Catholicism in parishes, dioceses, retreat houses, colleges, and religious communities throughout the United States. He authored *Marriage Equality: A Positive Catholic Approach*, and serves as the editor and a contributor to Bondings 2.0, a daily blog of news and opinion covering Catholic LGBT+ topics. His articles have appeared in *The National Catholic Reporter*, *Commonweal*, *The Advocate*, and *The American Catholic*. Mr. DeBernardo was the keynote speaker at the conference on religion and LGBTQIA issues at the first World Pride event in Rome, Italy, in 2000, and a featured speaker at the interfaith conference at World Pride in London, England in 2012.



## FOREIGN LANGUAGE READERS NEEDED JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>



**SIGN-UP TO SERVE: MAY - JULY 2025** IT’S EASY AND **ONLINE**

Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through July 2025* ONLINE by visiting the landing page of our website at [ICOH.net](http://ICOH.net) and clicking our **Red SignUp Genius Button** or scanning the QR code at left. If you’re a student — or planning Summer travel — feel free to **sign-up for the Feast of Pentecost only**. Training for all lay ministries available upon request. **THANK YOU for your participation!**

## SignUp – Immanuel’s Spring Potluck in Zabriskie June 8<sup>th</sup>



Following **the 10:30 service** — **held in Zabriskie Chapel** — on the Feast of Pentecost June 8<sup>th</sup> please join us in the Parish Hall for our traditional Potluck to celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer! We need volunteers to set up, serve, clean up, and of course to bring your favorite dishes to share. Please use the Q.R. code at left to the **[Pentecost Sunday Potluck Signup Genius to sign up](#)** (also linked on Immanuel’s homepage) . Food slots include recommended dishes as well as number of servings. We look forward to seeing you there! Please contact Dave John at [d\\_falcon7@hotmail.com](mailto:d_falcon7@hotmail.com) with any questions.



## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS: May - June 2025

**MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> - FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH: PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGE** Our Director of Music, Dr. Jane Tavernier, will join the Senior Ministry and Fellowship brown bag lunch this Tuesday. An adjunct professor of music, Jane will give us a better understanding of the organ, how it produces the glorious sounds that we enjoy weekly in our worship, and the breadth of the organ repertoire that we can experience in many settings.

Please join other seniors in **the Parlor of Immanuel Chapel** on **Tuesday, May 27 at 12:15pm.** Bring your own sandwich or salad and we will provide dessert and drinks. During Jane’s presentation we will adjourn to the Chapel for the ability to watch the organ and organist in close-up!

There is no reservation requirement and no cost to this event and, as always, friends, neighbors, and family members are welcome.

**JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> – HISTORIC TOUR at MARYLAND’S GLEN ECHO PARK with SENIOR ADULT, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRIES:** In the summer of 1960, the Glen Echo Amusement Park, located just outside of Washington, D.C. in suburban Maryland was the site of a season of picketing in an effort to force the park to abandon its Whites Only admission policy. The on-going demonstrations were spearheaded by the student Nonviolent Action Group of Howard University, joined by white supporters including residents of adjacent Bannockburn community and members of the AFL-CIO. The sit-in on the Glen Echo carousel resulted in the arrest of five black student protesters and the court case wound its way to the Supreme Court, which ruled in 1964 that the arrest of the demonstrators violated the Fourteenth Amendment guarantee of equal protection.

On Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 10a.m. Immanuel’s Senior Adult Ministry and Fellowship will join our Youth and Family Ministry, and our Social Justice Ministry to visit Glen Echo Park for a tour of the historic Dentzel Carousel where the demonstration began. We will hear a 45-minute ranger-led presentation at the carousel about the history of the park and of the carousel, which culminated with the eventual integration of the park in 1961. We will also be joined on this trip by members of St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church where our beloved Patty Alexander is Rector.

Following the tour, we will have a box lunch picnic under the shade trees next to the carousel and a chance to share the experience and hear what it says to us about our collective past, our present and our future. The carousel will open for rides after lunch (\$2 for one ride, \$5 for a day pass), there is a playground adjacent to the picnic area/carousel and several artist studios to explore within the park.

We will be leaving the parish hall parking lot 9:45am and plan on returning no later than 1pm. Co-pay to ride in the van is \$20. If you prefer to drive, there is plentiful free parking in an adjacent lot approximately 1/4-mile walk from the carousel along a winding boardwalk and paved path. **Please RSVP by Monday, June 2** to Karen Besser at [karen.besser@gmail.com](mailto:karen.besser@gmail.com) in order to reserve a seat on the van and/or a box lunch.

## IMMANUEL CHURCH ON-THE-HILL EASTER APPEAL

In thanksgiving for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and as a concrete expression of support in His name for two immediate needs during the Great Fifty Days of Easter, Immanuel's Easter Appeal began Easter Sunday, April 20th and will conclude on Pentecost, June 8th. Two of the ministries Immanuel supports have especially urgent needs:

### HAITI MICAH PROJECT -- EMERGENCY IN MIREBALAIS

For over ten years, Immanuel has supported the **Haiti Micah Project (HMP)**, founded in 2005 by Joseph Constant, then a priest at Virginia Theological Seminary. HMP established an orphanage and vocational school, along with a large nutrition program feeding impoverished children. Incorporated as a Virginia charity, HMP employs a staff of over twenty in Mirebalais, Haiti. Mirebalais is also home to the country's most advanced medical facility, the University Hospital. Haiti has been gripped with violence and unrest since 2021—but mainly in its capital, Port-au-Prince. However, two weeks ago, Mirebalais was overrun by armed gangs. A local priest described the situation in terms of “unspeakable scenes of terror unfolding before our very eyes”. People living in Mirebalais have been killed; and others “walk barefoot, without clothes, without food, without hope.” Thankfully, the Haiti-Micah staff evacuated its children to another town. They are safe but traumatized. We don't know the status of HMP facilities in Mirebalais; but the town's schools, churches, and businesses are closed. The immediate goal is to get food, clean drinking water, clothing and temporary shelter for staff and children. The international response to this emergency has been one of detachment. Yet the children of Mirebalais are precious to God. They pray—as we do-- for their daily bread and to be delivered from evil. It may seem hopeless, but they need our prayers and our help to survive.

### CHRIST CHURCH REFUGEE MINISTRY

Christ Church Refugee Ministry has been helping refugees in Alexandria since 2016. The Refugee Ministry – with the help of several Immanuel parishioners – has supported 113 families (roughly 475 individuals) by building relationships with each family, and providing Care Team-support, assistance, and friendship. 13 newer families still need some assistance, but the remaining 100 are self-sufficient – a wonderful metric considering it takes an average of 6 months for a family to become self-sufficient. Right now -- Christ Church Refugee Ministry has the highest number of families seeking help at one time in the history of the ministry. The current urgent situation emerged in late January this year when after going through the US State Department's 2-year vetting process, these families -- legally in the US, resettled in Alexandria, and promised 3 months of financial resource support—learned overnight with no notice -- the new administration cut all funding to their resettlement agencies. Most families are Afghan, and many of the fathers served with U.S. military or aid groups. Most have children. Rent assistance is especially critical in the early months, as newly arrived parents try to find jobs, enroll their kids in school, learn the bus systems, learn/improve English, and just navigate a completely new life. Our donations help these families stay housed, learn English, and have emergency medical/dental care until they are self-sufficient. And...they will know people in our community care about them and their children.

Immanuel Parishioners moved to support this appeal may choose one of the three methods below:

- (1) **Write a check** to Immanuel with **Easter Appeal Haiti–Micah** or **Easter Appeal Christ Church Refugee Ministry** in the memo line
- (2) **Donate online** via the QR Code at right and look for **Easter Appeal** dropdown options
- (3) from Immanuel's web site [www.ICOH.net](http://www.ICOH.net), under GIVE, select ONLINE GIVING, then Give Here: select the Easter Appeal dropdown option you want.

Donations made to **Easter Appeal** (without further designation) will be split between both ministries.



With grace and gratitude at Easter, we remember Jesus' words: “*Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.*” (Matthew 22:37-40). Thank you so much.

**Monthly Saturday Breakfast Bible Study: “GOD’S PROMISES”**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8:00 AM, Held Online via Microsoft Teams**

Join Immanuel’s monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study **Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** online via Microsoft Teams (find this bulletin on our website under the “Worship” tab, then click on the link below) beginning at 8 a.m. Our new theme for 2025 is *God’s Promises*. This month we will read **Numbers 23:19 - 20** “*God is no human being that he should lie, no child of Adam to change his mind...is it his to speak and not fulfill?*” using the African Model of Reflection. For more information, please visit [our webpage “Breakfast Bible Study”](#), or contact Chrissie Crosby at [cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com](mailto:cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com).

[Join MSTeams Saturday Breakfast Bible Study Meeting](#) / Meeting ID: 959 5450 6553 / Passcode: 027913



**Mark Your Calendar: FORUM HOUR ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
**Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:45 a.m., The Welcome Center**

Join us for an in-depth presentation on the topic of AI (Artificial Intelligence) on Sunday, June 22nd in the Welcome Center. Our speaker is Dr. Najam Hassan, Chair of Computer and Data Science, Capitol Technology University in Laurel, Maryland.

You may find his bio at: <https://www.captechu.edu/news-events/faculty-spotlight-dr-najam-hassan>



**Caring for God’s Creation**

The annual spring migration of birds is currently underway as millions take to the sky in one of nature’s most spectacular phenomena. Here’s how we can help them safely reach their breeding grounds: Between 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM during May:

- Turn off or dim any non-essential exterior building lighting
- Close curtains or blinds to reduce the escape of interior lighting
- Avoid illuminating lobbies, plants, or fountains that may attract birds



Why lights out? Most birds migrate at night, employing an incredible sensory system to navigate and to orient in darkness. Light pollution attracts and disorients these migrating birds, disrupting these systems and increasing birds' vulnerability to collisions with structures. (An estimated 365 million birds die in collisions with buildings annually.) We can dramatically help by turning off all non-essential lighting during migration.

Increase the fun of helping out northern Virginia migrating songbirds by using Cornell Lab’s BirdCast — scan QR code at left which gives information about live migration in real time. Questions? Contact Denise Freeland, [eco.voce@verizon.net](mailto:eco.voce@verizon.net)

**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  
 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  
 Bella Jung ..... Nursery Director  
 Miguelina Guzmán ..... Nursery Assistant

**THE VESTRY**

Amy Thomas ..... Senior Warden  
 Caroline Bergmark ..... Junior Warden: Buildings and Grounds, Registrar  
 Peter Kent ..... Junior Warden: Administration  
 Mark Fearer ..... Social Justice  
 Matt Haskin ..... Worship  
 Rich Hobson ..... Outreach  
 Taylor Houck ..... Adult Formation and Discipleship  
 Dave John ..... Fellowship  
 Doug Onley ..... Stewardship and Planned Giving  
 Mary Ann Ring ..... Children, Youth, and Family Ministries  
 Brian Rush ..... Senior Ministry, Pastoral Care  
 Bert Shelters ..... Evangelism and Newcomers, Communications  
 Sophie Johnson, David Lloyd, Sydney Onley, and Isabelle Young-Smith ..... Youth Representatives

**SCHEDULE OF 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](http://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 HOURS**

Weekdays 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304  
 Telephone: 703•370•6555, Fax: 703•370•0837

[ICOH.net](http://ICOH.net)



**Ways to GIVE**