

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Parish Notes

November 24, 2024

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. 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: Aggie Fortune, Ann MacNamara, Barbara Ramsdell, Catherine Sinclair, Cynthia Dolvin, Cynthia Morton, Cy Murphy, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Joseph, Ken and Mia Mason, Kenny, Lynn Gas, Mable Randolph, Margaret Messenger, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Norma Taliaferro, and Wendy Hoge.

Pray for Our Friends and Family: Ann Langdon Days, Anna Woodward, Ashleighana, Barbara Sagan, Betsy Fox Berry, Betty Hicks, Brian and Joyce, Bridget Rice Rose, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Dana De Cecco, Dorothy Gerhart, Felicia Balzano, 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, Lavinia Johnson, Lilly Pinner, Linda Gill, Louise Jackson, Lucie Bauer, Lysbeth, Michael, Marcia Richardson, MariAnn Hollis, Marty Childs, Matteo Kabay, McQuade Milligan, Mary Leonard, Mary Muniz, Pamela, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rebecca Smith, Richard Zitelli, the Rev. Rosa Harper Crawford, Rosemary Wensing, Ryan Willis, Sarah Minor, Shelby Ochs Owen, Soundary Dilan, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Susan Little, and Winnie Kidd.

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

NASA Astronauts on Extended Service Aboard the International Space Station: Commander Barry “Butch” Wilmore and Pilot Sunita “Sunni” Williams.

Praying with Scripture: An Opportunity for Reflection After Eucharist

Silent prayer or mediation draws us closer to God. When we focus on one of the Sunday scripture passages, we may discover more of God’s message to us. We will explore praying with scripture in the **Octagon Room** off the small Oratory Chapel following the 10:30 a.m. service. Pick up a treat at coffee hour, bring your bulletin, and join us to meditate on one of the scripture passages for the day. Our prayer time will conclude by 12:30 p.m.

Announcements

Weekday Worship and Study Opportunities

All are welcome to participate

Morning Prayer Tuesday, November 26 @ 10:00 a.m. Zabriskie Chapel

Noon Holy Eucharist Rite II, Wednesday, November 27, Zabriskie Chapel

Weekly Bible Study: *“The Gospel of Luke”*

No meeting Nov 28; Resumes Thursday, December 5 @ 10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

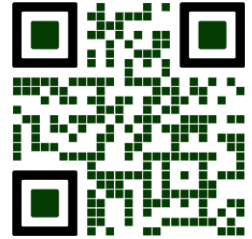
Evening Compline, Friday, November 29 @ 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom



Our faith tells us that an essential aspect of living gratefully is giving back in thanksgiving to God and towards God’s great purposes in the world. To fulfill this crucial part of our faith we announce Immanuel’s **Every Member Pledge Campaign for 2025** with the theme **“Living Gratefully.”** This is an opportunity for all of us to give back to God from all we have been given.

Immanuel’s Campaign runs from November 3 through Commitment Sunday, November 24. All parishioners should have now received a pledge packet; if you did not, please let us know!

You may use the QR code to make a pledge, or complete a pledge card and mail it to the church office, or place it in the offering plate. You may also pledge online using Immanuel’s [website](#), by clicking the green *Pledge Here* button.



As of Thursday, November 21, we have received 59 pledges, for a total of \$381,500.

Prayerful and intentional pledging expresses our thanks for God’s many gifts, and it supports our beloved parish church in all of its many vital ministries and our life together in Christ.

BINGO TONIGHT!

NOVEMBER 24. 5:30 - 8:30. PARISH HALL.

For Fellowship, Gratitude, and Celebration!

Immanuel is providing pizza & salads & water & lemonade.

Please bring your own tasty beverages and dessert.

BINGO begins at 6:15 pm. Yes, there will be prizes!

+ THANKSGIVING EVE EUCHARIST +

Please join us for a special Eucharist for Thanksgiving on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday November 27th, at 6PM, in Zabriskie Chapel.

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD WITH THE REV. SARAH SPURLOCK BIGGS

No gathering this Wednesday November 27; resumes December 4.

Please join her NEXT Wednesday December 4, from 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. All are welcome!

SIGN UP TO SERVE IN SUNDAY SERVICES THROUGH DECEMBER 2024

It's easy to sign up online!

Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services through December online — including Thanksgiving Eve, Feast of Christ the King, Gaudete Sunday, and Christmas masses —by visiting the landing page of our website at www.ICOH.net and clicking on the Red SignUp Genius Button.

Thank you for your participation!

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS NOVEMBER 2024

FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH. Please join us for the last Senior Ministry and Fellowship brown bag lunch of 2024 to take a sneak-peek at what awaits us in 2025! We will be meeting in the Parish Hall at 12:15pm on the fourth Tuesday, **November 26**. Bring your own sandwich or salad, and Senior Ministry and Fellowship will provide beverages and dessert. There is no cost for this event and no reservation is required.

CHANGE A LIFE! BECOME A BOOK BUDDY

Alexandria Tutoring Consortium (ATC) is helping first and second graders learn to read, and they need you!

Work with a student once or twice a week, now through May, at one of the following elementary schools: James Polk (9:40 – 10:20) or Ferdinand Day (1:50 – 2:20). ATC provides training, weekly materials, and ongoing support. It is important to honor the year-long commitment because you really do become Book Buddies and your student will look forward to seeing you every week.

For more information contact **Alexa Allmann** at aallmann@alexandriatutors.org or go to <https://alexandriatutors.org/tutors/sign-up-to-become-a-tutor/>

VOLUNTEER FOR ALIVE!

One of Immanuel's outreach partners is ALIVE!, the oldest and largest private safety net in the City of Alexandria dedicated to fighting poverty and hunger.

There are many volunteer opportunities at ALIVE! each month. Go to <https://www.alive-inc.org/we-need-volunteers-alexandria-va/> to find the list and easy directions for signing up.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1: **Youth Led Sunday** at 10:30 a.m., Immanuel Chapel, followed by **Advent Wreath Making** in the Zabriskie Parish Hall. All are welcome – please join us!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15: **Youth Tour of St. Nicholas Exhibit**, 12:15 p.m., VTS Welcome Center: Children of all ages are invited to tour the St. Nicholas exhibit and enjoy Santa-themed snacks, following the 10:30 Eucharist.

LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT AT IMMANUEL “Advent prayer as waiting and longing”

There will be three opportunities for quiet devotion on Tuesday evenings in Advent: December 3, 10, and 17 from 5:15-6:00 p.m. in the Oratory Chapel at the Seminary, with the **Rev. Dr. Sarah Coakley**.

These sessions will be a continuation of the quiet prayer group that formed last Lent, but newcomers are particularly welcomed, and a few minutes of simple advice about the practice of silence will be given at the start. The third session will consist of a short corporate silence followed by a simple, contemplative eucharist. If you would like to deepen your prayer, with the support of others, during this very busy time of year, do come along and be surprised by the profundity of this shared act of attention and adoration.

Dr. Coakley will also give a **Forum Hour on Sunday Dec 8** (at 11:45 a.m. in the VTS Welcome Center next to Immanuel Chapel) with a connected presentation and open discussion on: *“Re-thinking Advent as a Spiritual Project: Repentance, Longing and Hope.”*

CONFIRMATION CLASS FORMING:

Immanuel is scheduled for a Bishop's visitation and Confirmation on Sunday, March 16, 2025. We will be forming a Youth Confirmation Class and a separate track for adults who want to be Confirmed or Received. Please reach out to any of the clergy if you are interested.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES 2024 – Signing Up for a Family

And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25:40)

Today is the first Sunday you can sign up to buy gifts for a family, or part of one, to bring the good news of Christ's coming and God's love in a very tangible form – a toy to grow with, clothing to keep warm in and that children are proud to wear, increasing their self-esteem – to another family, transforming a bleak Christmas into the light of Christ present. **Sign-up is before or after each service on Sundays Nov. 24, Dec. 1, and Dec. 8**, or in the Zabriskie Narthex during the week. You can also email or call Linda Serabian (see below) with a description of the kind of family you would like (number, age, and gender of children) and she will select a family for you and send you the information. We have so far **72 families**, 181 children and 89 parents, 270 people in all, with more to come.

Ingathering of the gifts and blessing at the altar will be on Dec. 15, which is also the Sunday of the special collection. Or you can bring the gifts to the parish office before Dec. 15. Dec. 15 is also the Sunday of the great forum hour party to wrap gifts for children and parents not "adopted".

In addition, **used computers** will find eager fingers and minds. Also very welcome are **used bicycles in any shape, good used toys and children's books, calendars you receive in the mail, and gently used clothing and blankets** (for children and adults), especially warm winter coats and clothes to wear to a new-found job. (Please label packages of clothing as to kind and size.). They will be arranged in "Boutique" at Social and Human Services for social workers to pick up for client families.

For the **bicycle program** we partner with Vélocity Bicycle Cooperative (<https://velocitycoop.org/donate-stuff/>), 2111 Mt Vernon Avenue, Tuesday. – Sat. 10 am – 4 pm. They provide beautifully refurbished bikes for many children on our list. You can take used bicycles directly to them or bring them to the church. It would be great if some Immanuelites, including young people, would volunteer for Vélocity. They will teach you bicycle repair.

Connie Kurz and Laura Snow buy children's books in quantity at very good prices, and then, with a team, assign books for each of the families, to be wrapped and united with the other gifts for the family.

Posting to your neighborhood listserv may move some people not members of Immanuel to sign up for a family on our list. We want to expand the **social media effort to get people in surrounding neighborhoods involved**. If you can help, let Linda Serabian know.

A vignette. In a previous year we received a last-minute referral of a family who was evicted and all of their stuff was moved out, but they were allowed to stay for a few more days to celebrate Christmas in the empty apartment. Another group got them a tree and decorations, and we got them nice toys and a generous gift card. The little girls didn't seem to notice they had no furniture. One of the little girls wants to become a veterinarian, so we got her an 18" doll with a collection of doll clothes, including a veterinarian outfit, expertly produced by the XFAM sewing group Candy Levin, Laura Snow, and Brooke Roberts.

Christmas Families is a small yet so big part of transforming the world and comforting God's people. We make the world new by putting a toy into a child's hands to help her grasp the world in her mind, or by giving a stuffed tiger as a huggable companion and clothes to keep warm. There are billions of children in the world, so you might ask "What does it matter?" It matters very much to the children and parents in the family for whom you sign up to provide gifts.

Dagobert Soergel <ds@dsoergel.com> 703-585-2840

Linda Serabian . <serabian@somaarchitects.com> 703-303-8946

Dorothy Kellogg <djaskellogg@gmail.com> 571-244-3425

Connie Kurz <cgkurz@aol.com>

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
 Tom Hewson (thewson@icoh.net) Treasurer
 Mollie Lambert (mlambert@icoh.net) Assistant Treasurer
 Mike Morgan (mmorgan@icoh.net) Finance Manager
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) Parish Administrator
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net) Audio Visual Technician
 Gilma Balcarcel Nursery Coordinator
 Miguelina Guzmann Nursery Assistant
 Tim Lawhorn 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
 Caroline Bergmark Registrar, Communications
 Sophie Johnson, Sydney Onley, David Lloyd, 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
[Immanuel's YouTube channel](#)

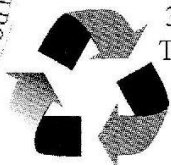
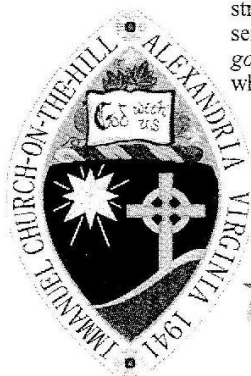
PRIESTS ASSOCIATE

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



Ways to GIVE