

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

January 11, 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, Jim, Nancy, Spencer, and Zuzanna Wise, Carolyn Ferguson, Catherine Sinclair, Chris von Schoening, Craig Jackson, Cynthia Morton, Cy Murphy, Debbie Hewson, Dick and Norma Taliaferro, Gary and MeiLung DeVight, Gordon Johnson, Hugh Campbell, Jane, John Richards, Joseph, Kenny, Mary Jane Ruhl, Nancy Bishop, Natalie Doyle Hennin, Rollin Huntington, Susan Montague, Thom Hussey, Tom and Martha Shimkin, 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, Bridget Rice Rose, Caleb Lusk, Carol Ording, Charlotte Kellogg, Cicely, Donna Becker, George Rustigian, Gerry and Nan Hardison, the Rev. Harry Benjamin, the Howerton Family, Hudson Milligan, Jack Allen, Jackson Sirhal, Jean Couban, Jodi Wilson, Joe Micelli, the Rev. John Hogg, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Karen Landry, Leea Gorman, Lilly Pinner, Louise Jackson, Lysbeth, Marcia Richardson, Margie Lidoff, Marie, Mary Horner, Mary Muniz, Marty Childs, Matt, McQuade Milligan, Melvyn and Stacy, Michael, Paul, Peter Blackledge, Rosemary Wensing, Russ, Sofia, Soundary Dilan, Stacey, Stephen Miller, Stephen Spurlock, Susan Little, Thomas Henry, Tim Williams, Tony, Val, Wesley Johnson, and Winnie Kidd.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Stephen Friday, Doug John, Norma Jean Lawton, Thomas John, Sudie McGahuey, Colin Swisher, Karen Walker, Charlie Biggs, Kim Cook, and Leif P. Christoffersen.

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: Judi Rhodes, friend of Doug Henry; Mike Landry, husband of longtime friend of the Atwood Family; U. S Congressman Doug LaMalfa, State of California; and Reneé Nicole Good of Minneapolis, MN. *Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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.

Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

All are welcome to participate

Morning Prayer Tuesday, January 13th @ 10:00 a.m., Zabriskie Chapel

Wednesday Holy Eucharist Rite II, January 14th @ 12 Noon, Zabriskie Chapel

Quiet Prayer, Wednesday, January 14th @ 5:15 p.m., Oratory Chapel at Immanuel Chapel

Weekly Bible Study: “*The Gospel of John*” Thursday, January 15th

@10:30 a.m. online via Zoom.

Look for login details in your weekly eBlast email.

Compline this Friday, January 16th @ 8:30 p.m., online via Zoom

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORLD with *The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs*, January 14th, 2026

Join Sarah for fellowship this **Wednesday, January 14th** from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Alexandria Pastry Shop, Bradlee Shopping Center on King Street. **All are welcome!**



Monthly Saturday Breakfast Bible Study's New Theme for 2026:

“**CONTENTMENT**” (in accepting love and rejecting fear)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17th @ 8:00 AM,

Held Online via Microsoft Teams

Join Immanuel's first monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study for 2026 on **Saturday, January 17th** 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 2026 is **Contentment**. This month we will read **Isaiah 43: 2-7 “Do not be afraid, I have redeemed you”** using the African Model of Reflection.

For more information, please visit [our webpage “Breakfast Bible Study”](#), or contact Chrissie Crosby at cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com.

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



The **Annual Meeting of Immanuel Parish** will be held on **Sunday, February 1**, in Zabriskie Parish Hall, immediately *following* the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist. Please plan to attend in person so we can meet the quorum needed for electing new Vestry members.

ALIVE! FOOD DRIVE 2026 Begins TODAY

Immanuel will collect non-perishable food for ALIVE! beginning today, **January 11 through February 8.**

Last year, in 2025, we collected 1612 pounds of food! Let's see if we can up that amount to 1700 pounds this year! Below is a table of most needed foods-remember, **no glass jars** and **no expired items** please.

ACCEPTED FOOD DONATIONS

Fruits & Vegetables	Grains
Canned fruits & vegetables	Brown or wild rice, couscous, quinoa
Fruit or vegetable juice	Oatmeal & Cereal
Applesauce	Granola bars
Fruit cups	Whole wheat or multi-grain crackers
Jelly & Jam	
Proteins	Other
Canned or dried beans & peas	Liquid shelf-stable milk
Canned beef stew, chili, bean soup	Canola, olive, vegetable oil
Peanut butter	Pasta sauce
MOST NEEDED	
Canned fruits, vegetables, soup, beans	Kid-friendly single-serve, microwavable entrees (soup, ravioli, mac & cheese)
Canned meat and fish (chili, chicken, tuna, salmon, beef ravioli)	Pasta (spaghetti, other noodles, mac & cheese)
Cereal (including oatmeal)	Peanut butter and jam/jelly
Complete pancake mix (just add water) & syrup	Rice
Cooking oil (vegetable, canola)	Spaghetti, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes (sauce, diced, etc.)
Dried beans, lentils	

You'll find collection bins in both narthexes. The final week will be the annual **"Soup-er Bowl"** where we can place soup and other foods in bins, attempting to predict the winner! Thanks in advance for your support !



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



Sign-up to Serve in our Sunday Services *through March 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!**

Senior Adult Ministry and Fellowship January activities:

Join Senior Adult Ministry and Fellowship and see the world in a whole new way! We will start the New Year off with a trip to the **Washington National Cathedral** to take a tour of the stained-glass windows on Thursday, January 15. We will be eating lunch first and then taking a guided tour. While walking through the Cathedral, you will witness the stylistic evolution of Cathedral windows from 1911 to the present and learn about the creation process, which combines artistry and technical skill. In the tour, you will also discover how to “read” a window, decoding symbols that add meaning and depth to each lancet.

We will be assembling at the Zabriskie parish hall at noon. After lunch, our one-hour tour begins at 2:00pm. We plan to return to the Parish Hall no later than 4:00pm. Tickets for the tour are \$20 per person, and the co-pay to ride in the van is \$20. I have 20 tickets for this event, which is sold out. Please RSVP to Karen at Karen.Besser@gmail.com.

THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH AT GOODWIN HOUSE-ALEXANDRIA on January 21 at noon in the Fillmore room. Please join us for luncheon and conversation. RSVP to Rev. Susan if you are not a resident of Goodwin House and to Susan Kernan if you are a resident.

FOURTH TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH: SAINTS ALIVE! Do you ever wonder if there are folks among us who will be recognized in future times as saints? When Pauli Murray spent her third year of seminary at VTS in 1975-76 she was 65 years old, and had been a civil rights lawyer, a co-founder of the National Organization for Women, and a published author and poet. Extraordinary certainly, but...a saint? But Murray, who was ordained in January 1977 and passed away in July 1985, was added to the Calendar of Commemorations of the Episcopal Church, and thus to Holy Women, Holy Men at General Convention 2012. Come and let's learn more about Pauli Murray's life and talk about what role Holy Women and Holy Men have in our lives.

We will meet in the Parish Hall at 12:15pm on Tuesday, January 27. Bring your own sandwich or salad, and drinks and dessert will be provided. No RSVP is necessary.

AS ALWAYS, friends are welcome to join Senior Ministry and Fellowship activities.



Every Member Pledge Campaign Update: As 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 January 8th, we have received 119 pledges so far, totaling \$657,652. 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.



COME JOIN US ON THE IMMANUEL BUS TO RICHMOND WITH THE INTERFAITH CENTER, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21

For the past several years, the Social Justice committee has joined with other Immanuelites for a stimulating and fun bus trip and day in Richmond to meet with our representatives, learn about the Virginia legislative process, and advocate – with Vestry concurrence – on behalf of Immanuel on one or two issues important to our faith.



This year, we will be following up on further legislative action regarding higher education opportunities in Virginia’s prisons and easing zoning restrictions on those Virginia churches that want to use part of their property for affordable housing.

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is the overall sponsor of this exciting day. For more information, or to make sure you have a place on the bus, please talk to [Kathryn Haskin](#), [Jamie Conrad](#), or [Julie Bruns](#); registration is required (see QR code at left), and we can defray the fee for anyone who requests it. Lunch will be provided.



BEWARE of Questionable Emails without “ICOH.net” Extensions

Immanuelites, cyber criminals are at it again; we’ve received several attempts to compromise our security with phishing emails posing as parishioners (by name) and as Father Randy under fake accounts.

Should you receive a request for any information on Immanuel that doesn’t come from the icoh.net extension, please do not hesitate to forward it to Aleta at apowell@icoh.net for verification.

Let’s remember to keep everyone involved and affected by these cyber attempts in prayer.



Retiring in the New Year? Consider Ways to Give to ALIVE!

As mentioned in our weekly eBlast, Immanuel rose to the occasion for our inaugural diaper/wipe/formula drive. We thank all who contributed to our total of 380 pounds of needed diapers, wipes and formula last month.

Now more than every, ALIVE! Can use your help. Consider becoming a volunteer — or donating — by scanning the QR code at left or visit <https://qrco.de/bgX7Sd>.

Thank 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
 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

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
 Kristin Whitman Newcomers and 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
ICOH.net



Ways to GIVE