

Darrell Wilson

Immanuel Church-on-the Hill Vestry Candidate Survey

How long have you worshipped at Immanuel? Any other family members who worship here?

Leah and I have worshiped at Immanuel since 2001. Our children Ben and Rachel were baptized at ICOH and our family has been active participants and members of the church for nearly two decades.

What are some parish activities or ministries that have captured your time and talents?

I have participated in the annual Pumpkin Patch for over 15 years; I am one of the lucky truck people nearly every year that helps with truck unloading and occasionally with larger pumpkin deliveries. I have also helped organize other volunteers for the Pumpkin Patch, through Boy Scouts and helping get volunteers from TC Williams. Ben, Rachel and I are also active participants with ICOH's furniture delivery weekends for Alive and Leah has volunteered in Sunday School for around 15 years. I have also served on two lay Committees for Peter Ackerman and Pilar Padron. In 2019, I worked with many members of the Parish in helping with Christmas Families. Every year we are sponsors of our Church's outreach programs for the Dominican Republic Scholarships, school supplies in August and we also were active volunteers during the relocation of the Valley Drive Preschool to ICOH as both of our children were students at Valley Drive in the mid 2000's. The formation of the Family and Youth ministry over the past 4/5 years has been an increasingly wonderful aspect of our time in the Parish and it has enriched our entire family's life at the parish.

Please name something you find very valuable/something you love about Immanuel.

Immanuel plays a central role in our family's spiritual life. It is a part of the heartbeat of our family. We are committed to its outreach in Alexandria, its mission with the Seminary and its role in helping so many seminarians as they take on their call as ministers. The growth of the ministries for youth and families has been a huge development over the past 4 years and Leah and I are committed to helping grow that ministry. I also really enjoy our music ministry and I believe it is one of the truly wonderful and spiritual things about our church. It is something that Leah and I truly love and I have purposefully supported that ministry and hope to help it continue and grow.

What gifts, talents, interests and/or goals and objectives do you think you might bring to Vestry service?

I believe in serving. It's part of my broader call of being in the church. We are certainly called to worship, but putting my talents as a public and government relations professional to work for the parish is something I know can be used for our broader mission in our community and with our Outreach Partners. There are so many activities at ICOH and I believe I will become more active in many of them. One of the good things about considering serving on the vestry is that I come to this calling almost as an open book: A willing servant to provide a hand for work, an open mind for problem solving and 40 years of following Christ.

How would you view serving on the Vestry as a ministry, as part of your Christian journey?

Vestry to me is about listening to my fellow parishioners. It's about prayerfully seeing the opportunities for stewardship and building on our outreach programs so that Immanuel can address the needs of our parish and our community. I want to be an active part of providing the ministries that comfort, enrich and provide spiritual growth for all of us. When I think about how many spiritual leaders I have had the chance to learn from at Immanuel it's my hope to humbly serve in that manner and to build on all I have been given by this loving and amazing community of God.