

THE ALMOND TREE

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL



SPRING 2023

FINAL ISSUE

The Almond Tree Retires After 51 Years



*The Wedding of
Hugh and Jan Campbell*



On April 10, 2021 Annie Brennan married David SooHoo in the Zabriskie Chapel Memorial Garden. The bride's late grandfather, George Currie, played an integral role in helping to create this garden.

In this Issue...

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The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. takes a trip down memory lane, reminding us all that every milestone event is an opportunity to build a closer community -- and to count our blessings.

6 - "DID YOU KNOW" CONTEST: WINNING ENTRY #1

Janice Corbett asked the two-part question "Who is Zabriskie and why is our chapel named after him?". Aleta was only too happy to dig deep and find the answers.

13 - STORY CALL: SENTIMENTAL SACRAMENTS ON SEMINARY

Our Story Call from the quarterly issue asked you to send in your photos of baptisms, weddings, and confirmations that took place in Seminary Chapel, Zabriskie Chapel and Memorial Garden -- and boy, did Immanuelites deliver!

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The Episcopal Church Women are offering scholarships to graduating high school seniors and current college undergrads. Deadline to apply is June 30th.

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52 - HELP WANTED

Two summer jobs available: Shrine Mont Camps and Immanuel.

54 -HILL HAPPENINGS

Take a look and take part many offerings and opportunities.

Just a quick note to thank everyone who contributed to this magazine, and to all of the Immanuel Family for your patience.

With gratitude,
Aleta, Writer, Editor, Desktop Publisher

FROM THE RECTOR



The Hallowing of Time: What We “Remember” Together

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel,

This last issue of the *Almond Tree* celebrates many historical moments in time. Our Christian tradition helps us to mark the passage of time with suitable liturgies and rituals. The memories of many of those moments, as celebrated at Immanuel down through the years, are celebrated in this issue. From weddings to funerals, from baptisms and confirmations to Easters and Christmases, Immanuelites have observed these important passages together, in community. Some of the photos are quite old, some are more recent. Yet all of these photos submitted by members of the parish record significant passages which were observed in this community and offered up for God’s blessing. Indeed, this collective memory is part of the power of community and what we “remember” together, whether or not we were each individually present for the event.

I invite you, as you peruse these pictures, to give thanks for the community we share.

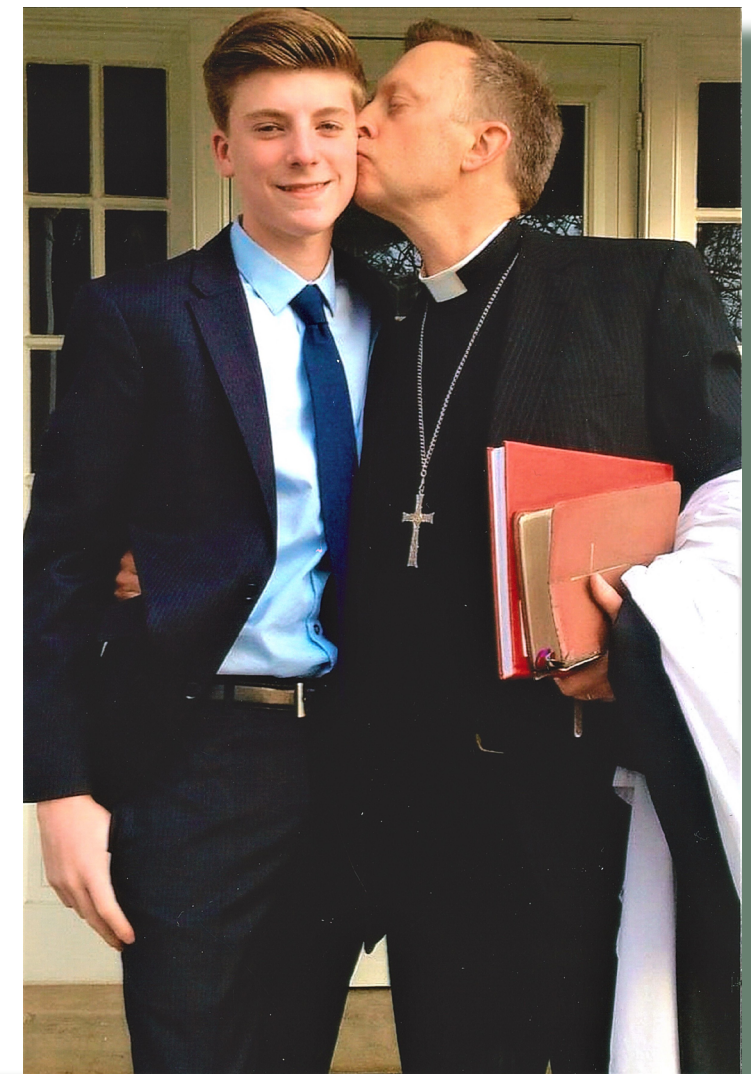
As we continue through this Eastertide, to God be the glory!

God bless you all,

Randy

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.
Rector

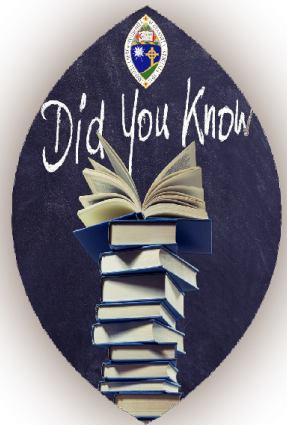
At left: Father Randy congratulates his eldest son, William Stirling Alexander after he was confirmed at Immanuel on April 5, 2015.



Below: William and Andrew Alexander, Father Randy, and the Rev. Patricia Phaenuf Alexander with Peter Roberts Alexander (center) after his confirmation September 10, 2017.

To see a recent photo of the Alexander Brothers, turn to [page 46](#).





Let's all offer our heartfelt thanks to Janice Corbett, our first winner of last fall's "Did You Know" contest! Her question on Zabriskie led the feature article below.

**ALL ABOUT ZABRISKIE:
Who Was He and Why Is Our
Chapel Named for Him?**

by Aleta Y. Powell

For those in a hurry, allow me to give you the “elevator speech” answer to Janice’s question of “who” Zabriskie was and “why” the chapel was named for him: the Rev. Dr. Alexander C. Zabriskie served as the seventh Dean of what was then called the Virginia Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary, and first official Rector of Immanuel. I believe that Zabriskie Chapel was named for him because he was the visionary behind the creation of the parish and this chapel – and, as his 1925 *The Living Church* letter indicates, a bit ahead of his time.

To learn the explanation behind the “who” and “why” you’ll need to read the rest of my article.

“Any-luck-did-you-find-it”? was usually the first thing I said after greeting Vincent, librarian at the Bishop Payne Library on “Holy Hill” for weeks last summer as I did research on all things Zabriskie. Digging through old copies of *The Living Church* magazine, I finally found something on Zabriskie in the “Correspondence” section: Harold H. Bowman’s letter to the editor dated April 20, 1925 which began as follows:

“After having carefully read and reread the Rev. Alexander C. Zabriskie’s letter in your issue of April 18th, regarding the division of missionary fields, I am entirely at a loss to understand how he could have so misconstrued the spirit and purport of your editorial on that subject, which he criticizes...”

For those assuming that the illustrious Mr. Bowman of Ossining, NY isn’t actually calling the recently-ordained Father Zabriskie “young, misguided and naïve”, he ends his letter with the following assertion:

“It may be granted that the individual Churchman, deprived of the services, sacraments, and ministrations of the historical Catholic Church, may worship and find comfort in the services of Protestant bodies. For the Catholic Church itself, however, voluntarily to adopt the policy of relaxing

any practicable effort to carry its sacraments and its services to everyone of its children, however unlearned, humble, or inaccessible, would be not only suicidal, but traitorous.”

Words fail me in explaining how driven I was to find the recently-ordained Zabriskie’s letter because, with the passage of nearly a century, it would be easy to discover which man had won this gentlemanly duel fought with the “sword” of the ink pen.

A son of a notable Episcopalian, New York City native Alexander Zabriskie graduated from Princeton University and attended Trinity College, Cambridge before earning a Bachelors of Divinity degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary in the spring of 1924 – known colloquially at that time as Alexandria Episcopal Seminary. He was ordained as a priest in December of that same year, settled into Alexandria with his wife Mary Ethelynn Tyler Zabriskie, and joined the faculty, teaching American Church History and New Testament Theology.

In 1940, a year when this country was still dealing with the damaging effects of the Great Depression and – near the end of that year – about to enter World War II, the Rev. Dr. Alexander C. Zabriskie was appointed the seventh Dean of VTS and later, the very first Rector of the newly-created Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, with the Rev. Robert F. Gibson serving as Minister in Charge to run the day-to-day operations. (He left Immanuel after five years to fulfill a [short-lived] commitment in Mexico during the war, only to return to serve as Rector of the parish in 1946. Father Gibson went on to become the tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia in 1961).

The story of Zabriskie Chapel – born out of the necessity of a rapidly growing parish and need for autonomy -- begins with a parish house. Since its founding, Episcopal High School students and the Seminary’s students all worshiped in the old Immanuel Chapel (nicknamed “Seminary Chapel”) on VTS grounds, carving out a schedule of services with the Immanuel congregation. Three institutions using one single building, fairly modest in size, led to some tight schedules as Immanuel grew.

According to Duncan B. MacDonald’s *Immanuel: In Interesting Times*, the original vestry (which I later learned had faculty members of both the Seminary and Episcopal High School to ensure the Seminary’s oversight), felt that Immanuel needed a parish house to accommodate the growing needs of the congregation and give it a “family home” to house a Sunday School, host fundraisers, community and parish fellowship events, outside of the times when Immanuel Chapel wasn’t available.

Completed in 1949, the new “family home” Nelson House, was named after the Rev. Thomas Kinloch Nelson, the priest who quickly stepped in to replace Father Bob (Gibson) after he departed for Mexico. Shortly after its completion, a rectory was built, and all was well on Holy Hill – until the congregation outgrew this new space.

The flight to suburbia, coupled with the post-war baby boom, led to the congregation having a baby boom of its own: during one eight-year period, Immanuel averaged 42 baptisms a year. As the Vestry discussed expanding Nelson House to include offices, more classrooms, and expanded fellowship space, it was Zabriskie who first proposed the need for an overflow chapel.

In the Capital fund report *Lamplight and Cornerstone*, it states “Dr. Zabriskie warned that unless something was done ‘to weld the children as strong members of our Church, the light which shines farthest from home would fail to shine brightly at home’”. It was Dr. Zabriskie’s firm belief that “lighting the bright light at home” was not the job of a seminary. It was the job of a *parish*. Over dinner with representatives from the Seminary, Episcopal High School, and local residents, the recommendation for a new parish, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, was unanimously approved. The minutes on the following page from the Vestry’s nighttime meeting -- held on a porch -- speak to both Zabriskie’s driving force for the new chapel and the steward’s dry humor.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST VESTRY MEETING, 1941

Special to the Virginia Churchman
From a Staff Correspondent

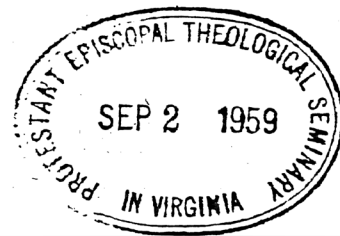
¹⁹⁴¹
HOWARDSVILLE, May 29:-- The powerful Zabriskie machine flattened all opposition last night when the Vestry Pro Tempore of the Seminary Chapel was organized. In place of the smoke-filled room a breeze-swept porch of the Deanery served as the council chamber, (but otherwise the shades of Boise Penrose and Mark Hanna would have felt at home, up to the time the cocacola was served anyhow.

The proceedings were literally and figuratively carried on in the dark. The tip-off came early when Walter Karig pre-empted the job of Secretary with the assertion he was the only one present who could write. Dr. Zabriskie then heartened the boys with a report on the net "take" at Sunday collections in 1940 achieved without putting the squeeze on the customers. Various means of stimulating attendance and putting the bee on newcomers were discussed, with Brother Al Miller suggesting a modernized version of pew rent and parking meters on the chapel drive. It was finally decided to leave the details in the hands of a Ways & Means Committee. Inasmuch as no committees could be named without the election of a presiding officer, that formality was swiftly performed by the Cabal. Brother Boogher nominated Brother Walker for senior warden and was seconded by Brother Tompkins, whereupon the Secretary declared the election unanimous. Walker then nominated Boogher for junior warden with Tompkins seconding, while Karig pretended to battle a wasp to distract the attention of the others. Boogher was declared unanimously elected. Brother Hooff, one of the most effective plate-swingers in the Diocese, was declared unanimously elected Treasurer before Brother Keddy could offer the nomination.

Dr. Zabriskie thereupon announced the next job to be the selection of an assistant, or working, pastor and said that if somebody would second the selection of Rev. Bob Gibson he would declare the nominations closed. Tompkins, ward leader of the EHS precinct, promptly did his part and Gibson was declared "it", and immediately summoned to the City Hall-- or the deanery piazza, rather. There the boys proceeded to tell him of the great honor he had been accorded, and persuaded him with small difficulty to accept the honor in lieu of salary, although Hooff suggested the Vestry would entertain the idea of giving Gibson a 10% commission on all Sunday collections in excess of \$500.

The Vestry will meet again on June 18 to discuss ways and means of obtaining an endowment to maintain a suite at the Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, for the use of the members.

x x x



Members of the Vestry voted to name the new chapel in honor of Zabriskie, as he was its first rector (and one of its most ardent champanions). The design was deliberately simple to emphasize Immanuel's "low church" aesthetic.

Although Immanuel Chapel, like almost all churches Virginia, held to strict codes of church conduct – and unspoken rules, like racial segregation for mass attendance – Zabriskie Chapel seemed to change with the times more quickly.

This is the chapel that, on the eve of the March on Washington, allowed protesters headed for DC to camp out on the church grounds – and served them breakfast the next morning.

This is the chapel where, with the strong support of the congregation, the Rev. William L. Dols, rector -- a formidable and early supporter of women entering the priesthood -- asked the vestry to approve his hiring Patricia Park as his Assistant Rector *before* the topic of women's ordination to the priesthood was raised during the 1976 General Convention.

This is the chapel that, for 29 years, has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support more than 25 charities via its famous Pumpkin Patch each October.

This is *the* chapel that truly became a second wing of a church home built for Immanuelites. The third wing is now the Seminary Chapel Memorial Garden, framed by the remaining walls of the old Immanuel Chapel.

Finally, as for the pen being mightier than the sword, Zabriskie's wield showed a priest with very modern ideas for the Roaring Twenties. In his editorial critique published *The Living Church* magazine on April 18, 1925, I read and, like the aforementioned Mr. Bowman, reread to learn of a young, early 20th century priest with very early 21st century theology. Zabriskie made the case that, given the high numbers of the American public who "...are either quite apathetic or non-Christian" Episcopal clergy should worry about bringing people to the Christian faith first, and abandon a singular focus of increasing the numbers of Episcopalians in the pews of *Episcopal* churches each Sunday.

"We (young priests) cannot see that Christianity is indissolubly bound up with the Episcopal Church... Is it not possible that we might do more for furthering the Kingdom on earth, and particularly in America, if we fixed our eyes steadily on the goal to be attained and gave less attention to preserving or expanding our Communion? Might not such a policy of self-sacrifice -- 'suicide' if you prefer -- be the surest way of ultimately finding a fuller usefulness, a more abundant life?"

Zabriskie began writing about the changing needs of a clergyman's mindset in numerous publications from the time he was a young Deacon through the end of his career – and didn't shy from controversy. In the March 10, 1923 issue of the *Southern Churchman*, he wrote:

"The ministry needs men who can sympathetically and intelligently study the new knowledge that science and history and archaeology are keeping to light, who can assimilate the proven and accepted



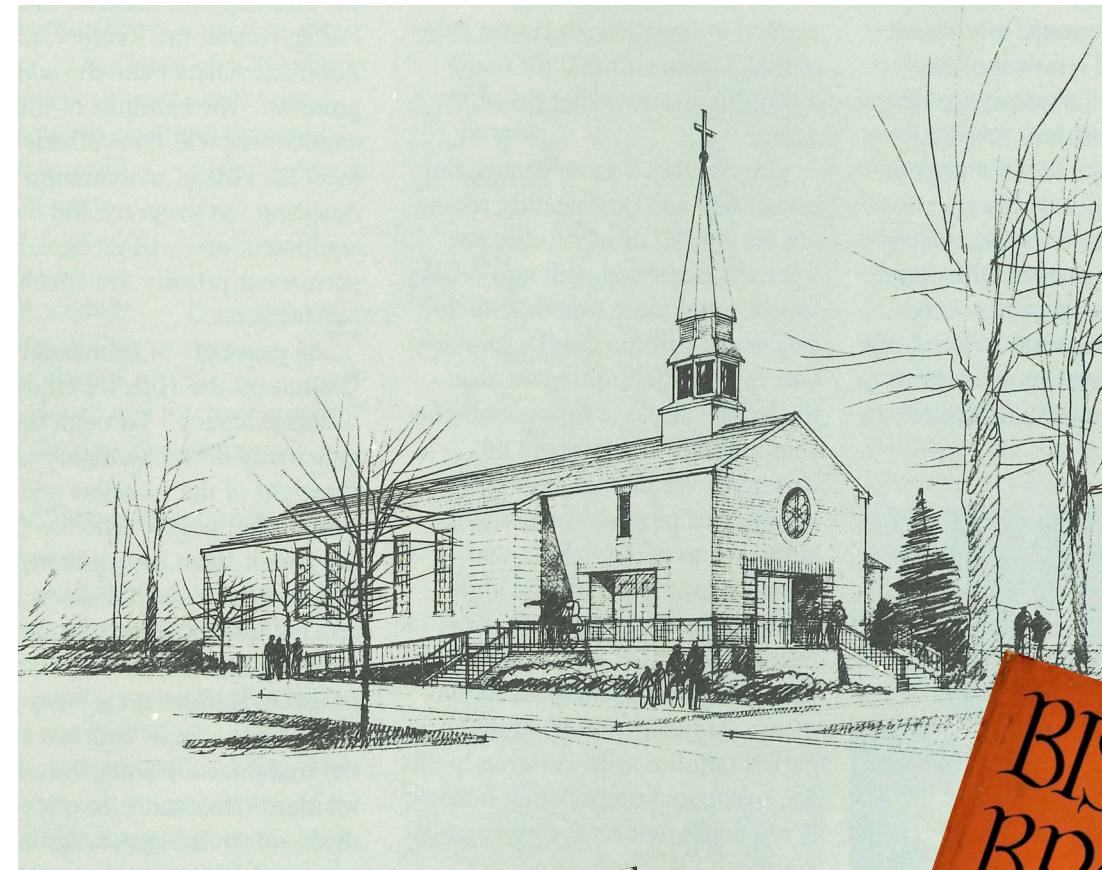
facts and rethink their ideas of God – His nature, will, mode of action, etc. – so as to include these new elements. Theology must keep abreast of general culture... Truth discovered anywhere, in the test-tube of the chemist, the researches of the psychologist, the labors of the archaeologist, as well as gleaned by the Biblical scholars and ecclesiastical historians. Such open-minded, widely-read thinkers and teachers can find plenty of occupation in the ministry, for the Church serves God and mankind as an educator”.

I’m neither priest nor scholar; however, based on my observations, modern history has proven Father Zabriskie to be exactly right.

All three of the Zabriskies’ sons became – and excelled as -- Episcopal priests, and started a long generational line of clergy that remain to this day. Their only daughter, Mary Forrest Zabriskie, was married at Immanuel Chapel by her brother, the Rev. Philip T. Zabriskie on December 22, 1957.

The Rev. Dr. Alexander Clinton Zabriskie died on June 24, 1956 at the age of 58, and was buried two days later. Years later, his widow Mary went on to become the Executive Director of the National Cathedral Association, and served on the Board of Trustees of Saint Agnes School. She never remarried, died thirty-one years later at the age of 90, and was buried with her husband in the small cemetery on the VTS campus.

The simple inscription at the bottom of their shared headstone reads “Go forward, Christian soldier”.



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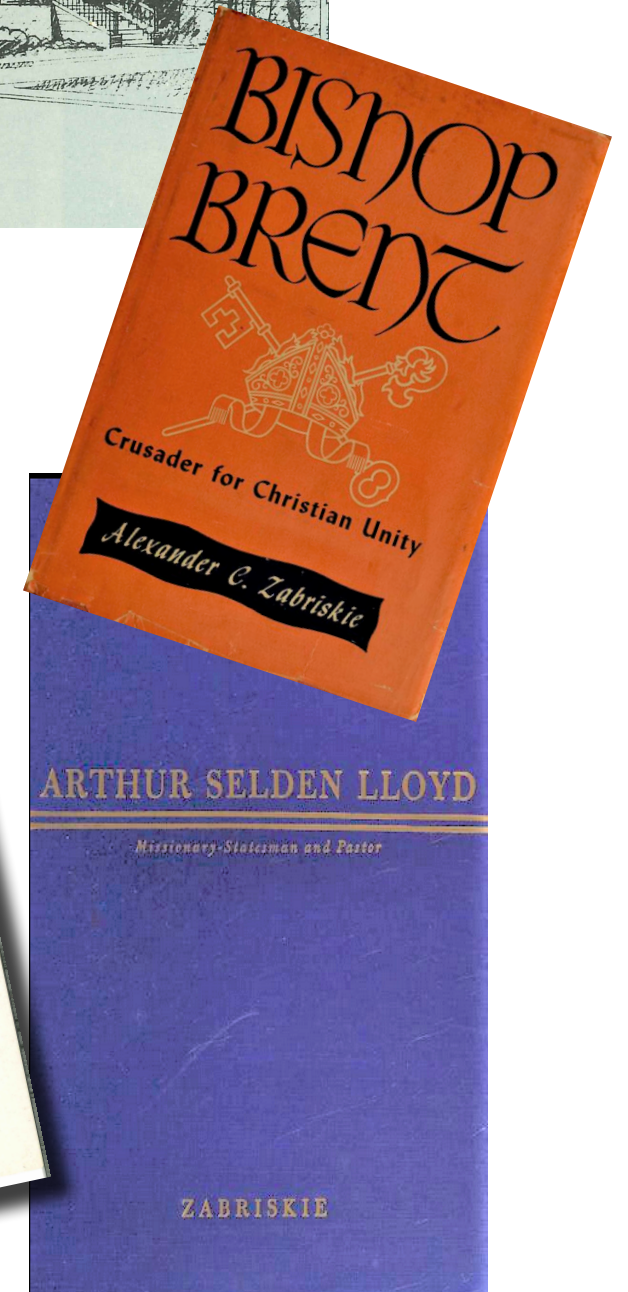
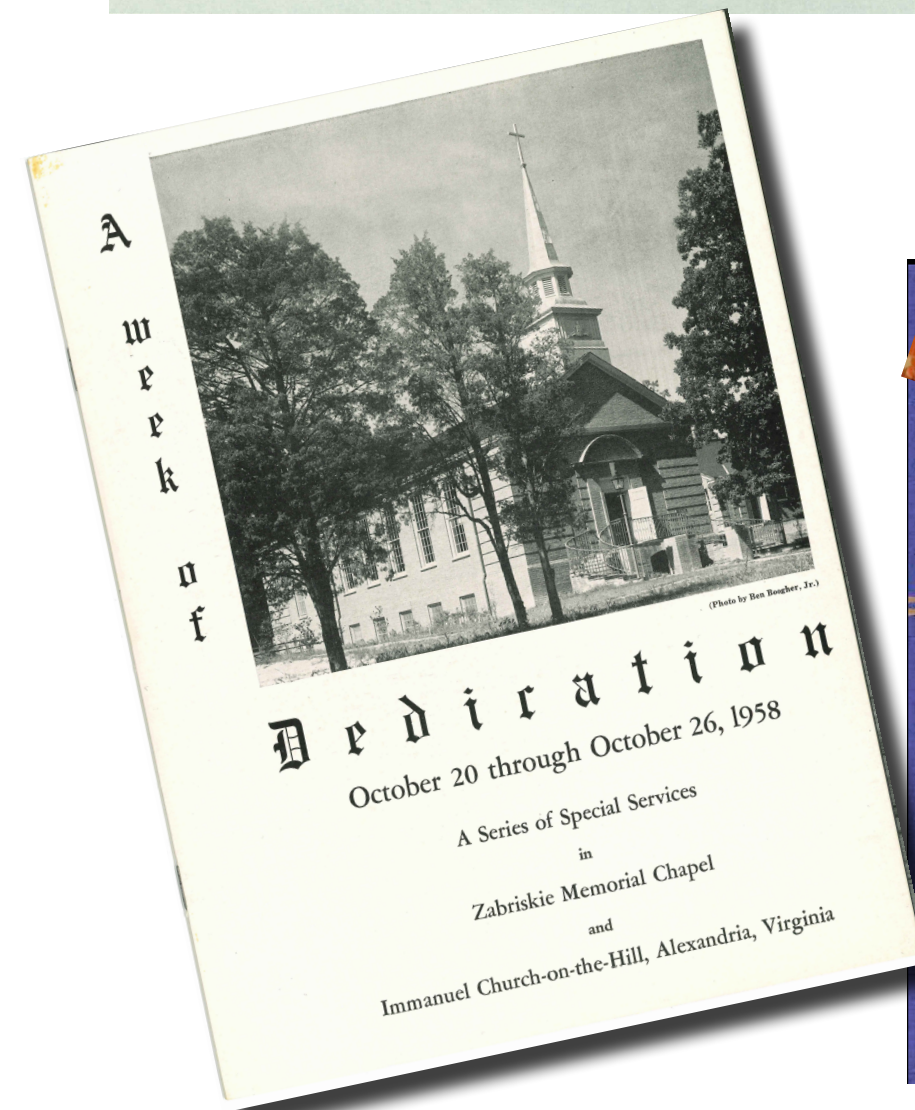
Zabriskie, Alexander C. (Editorial). “Why the Ministry?”, *Southern Churchman*, March 10, 1923, p.7

Zabriskie, Alexander C. (Letter). “Commends Division of Missionary Fields”, *The Living Church*, April 18, 1925, p.833

Bowman, Harold H. (Letter) *The Living Church*, May 9, 1925, p.45

Special thanks to:

Vincent Williams, User Services Manager
and
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The Bishop Payne Library and Archives
Virginia Theological Seminary



PAYING FOR THE FUTURE, AS WE GO

Fiscal Responsibility

In these same years, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill has demonstrated a concern for fiscal responsibility. From our first budget of under \$3,000 to our current budget of \$371,240, we have kept our debts to a minimum. A parish with current capital holdings worth several millions of dollars, we are now entirely debt-free. As we now prepare to address our needs for a thorough renovation of our physical plant and the expansion of Zabriskie Chapel, we expect to do so without incurring long-term debt.

Our Commitment to Continue

For many of us, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill is the medium by which the life-changing Good News has been communicated again and again. This has happened for us as individuals, it has happened for our family members and we have seen it happen for our friends.

We may have heard and experienced the Good News in a worship service, in a workshop, in a Committee meeting, in a reading group,

in a prayer group or study group, in a community service project, in a congregation meeting, on the playground, in the Memorial Garden, in a counseling session, in a relationship begun in the parish, or in any one of a hundred other ways.

Perhaps more so than any other kind of organization, the tangible and intangible benefits available to Christians are determined in proportion to the investment of ourselves in each other and in the life of the parish community. The nature of the Christian enterprise in



How Did **The Almond Tree** Get Its Name?

In 1970 the Rev. Jo-Ann Murphy was gifted a small almond tree by a friend. One Maundy Thursday, she and her late husband, the Rev. Russell Murphy, planted the tree in-between the chapel and rectory after their "evening shift" at the Altar of Repose.

When the Rev. William L. Dols Jr. became rector in 1972, he changed the name of the Immanuel Newsletter to *The Almond Tree*. The tree is long gone, but the name and legacy remained, serving Immanuelites for over half a century.



Immanuel Rector Tom Heath breaks ground for Zabriskie Chapel in 1957.



John and DeeDee Walker help burn the mortgage at the Zabriskie Chapel consecration in 1977. Senior and Junior Wardens Jim Hobson and Mary Page Rollins are at left and right, and officiating Bishop John Baden is in the background at far left.

Magazine Story Call: *Sentimental Sacraments at Old Seminary*

Our last story call asked Immanuelites to send in all of your favorite photos of Baptisms, Weddings, Confirmations and Homecoming Services taken at Seminary Chapel, Seminary Memorial Garden Chapel, and Zabriskie Chapel. Starting on the next page, we'll take a look back at how Seminary Chapel is still with us and how those sacred grounds are used today; along with a nostalgic look at special sacraments, and events that took place at Zabriskie prior to its renovation..

Baptisms

The picture is my baptism, spring of 1950, Seminary Chapel (there was no Zabriskie then). My mom Sally Weber, my sister Linda, and baby me. I have another pic with my dad, but have misplaced it. Still looking.

Doncha love the cars?!

Karen (Anne Weber) Besser
Baptized on July 9, 1950



Caroline Lakota Mass Hicks spends time with her (late) grandmother, Georgia Maas and her mother Katherine Maas -- and gets baptized by her grandfather, the Rev. Jan A. Maas -- in Zabriskie Chapel on July 29, 2012.





Molly Faeth Gray smiles as her grandmother, the Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann "Sam" Faeth baptizes her in Zabriskie Chapel on November 12, 2011.



At right: In Zabriskie Chapel, the Rev. Dr. M. Sam Faeth baptizes her 16-month-old grandson, Fisher Eugene Gray on November 16, 2014, as (then-Seminarian) the Rev. Rachel Rickenbaker assists

Confirmation



Above: Corey Wargo-Bergmark's Confirmation by former Bishop and Primate the Rt. Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori, May 8, 2016, Immanuel Chapel.

Children's Performances



The late Bishop Peter James Lee of the Diocese of Virginia, officiates at a confirmation inside of the old Immanuel chapel.



Edna Knight Roberts' photo from a Christmas pageant she participated in from the mid-1950s.



The Angels Children's Choir perform in the old chapel for a Palm Sunday program in Seminary Chapel.

Weddings

LAST WEDDING IN THE OLD CHAPEL

Margaret Maben Messenger weds William Stephen Kerekes, Jr. in Seminary Chapel

October 2, 2010



FIRST WEDDING IN THE NEW CHAPEL

Our wedding. June 15, 2015

Francine Wargo

Caroline Wendy Bergmark and Francine Wargo, Immanuel Chapel, with *(from left)* the Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander, the Rev. David Crosby, and the Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.



First wedding in the office register occurred May 21, 1929, when 24-year-old Mary Earle Huxtore -- who listed her residence as Episcopal High School -- wed 34-year-old Washingtonian William W. Mackall, Jr. by the Rev. Thomas K. Nelson (read more about his namesake Nelson House on [page 7](#)).

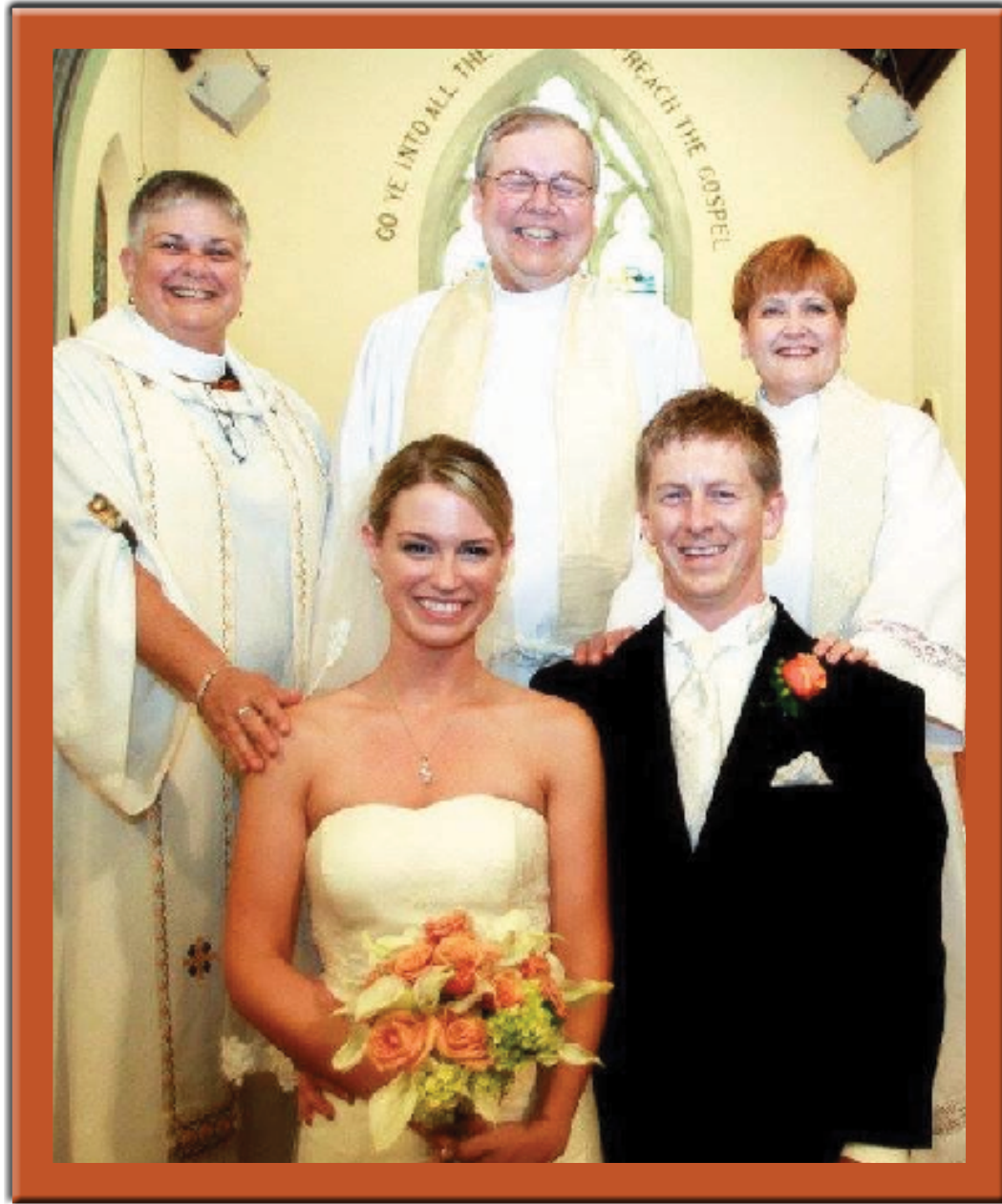
“Hillary Lynn Clausen and Ned Parker wedding on August 21, 2021. Same spot, the old Seminary Chapel, where Lisa and I married in 1982.”

Jim Clausen



Lisa Lynn Biache and James Steven Clausen
September 24, 1982
Seminary Chapel





Paige Warner Mowry and the Rev. William L. Packard

Seminary Chapel, July 17, 2010 with *(from left)* the Rev. Dr. Lauren Stanley, the Rev. Mark Rutenbar (Will's godfather), and the Rev. Dr. Margaret Ann (Sam) Faeth. The Rev. Will Packard was sponsored by Immanuel for ordination.



Here is a photo from our wedding at Zabriskie on April 28, 2018.
Kerry Kelly Wade

The Rev. Dr. Francis Howard "Frank" Wade wed Carter Lee "Kerry" Kelly with Father Randy Alexander officiating.



The Rev. Eric John Reading weds Jennifer Christine Langford
June 23, 2007
Seminary Chapel

The (late) Rt. Rev. Philip Smith and The Rev. Margaret Ann Faeth, Ph.D.



This photo of the Campbell - Horine Wedding offers the fullest view of the old chapel.



Hugh Lyle Campbell and Jan Evans Horine exit Seminary Chapel after their wedding on September 1, 1962...*"the hottest day of the year"* according to Jan.



Hugh and Jan Campbell's son, Gerald Horine Campbell, married Mary Ashton Sebrell on August 14, 1999, Seminary Chapel. Jan is standing on the far right in the foreground.



Douglas Sutherland Onley wed
Kameran Lindsay Bailey

October 13, 2002
Seminary Chapel

Officiated by the Rev. M. Sam Faeth





Timothy Joseph Gildersleeve and Susan Chapman Johnson were married April 4, 1992 in the old Seminary Chapel.

Opposite page, bottom right: Thirty years later, their youngest daughter Zoe Christian Gildersleeve wed Brett Christian Middle in Zabriskie Chapel. Zoe was baptized in the same chapel as a newborn. Both brides are flanked by Gordon and Frances Johnson, parents and grandparents of the bride, respectively.

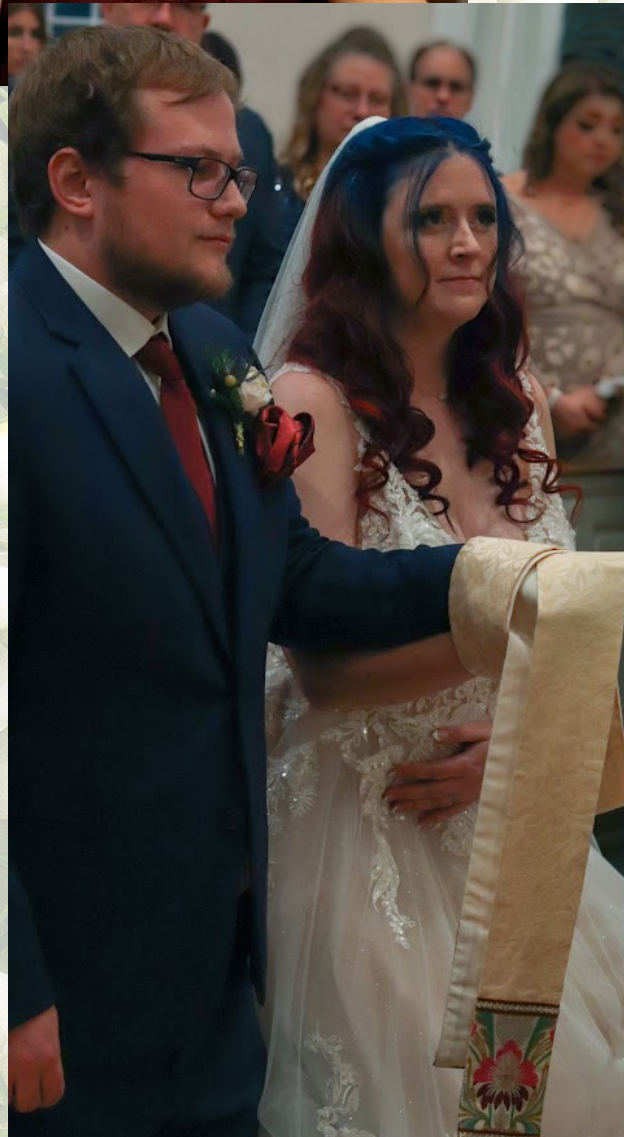




Bride Zoe Gildersleeve and her sister Kendall Gildersleeve *at right*, and during her wedding ceremony below.



William Bradford Ashton and Melinda Sherer Brodhead -- with her three young sons.
April 16, 1988, Zabriskie Chapel





Alisa Ann Alexander and
Andrew Scott Biache

Seminary Chapel

June 15, 1991



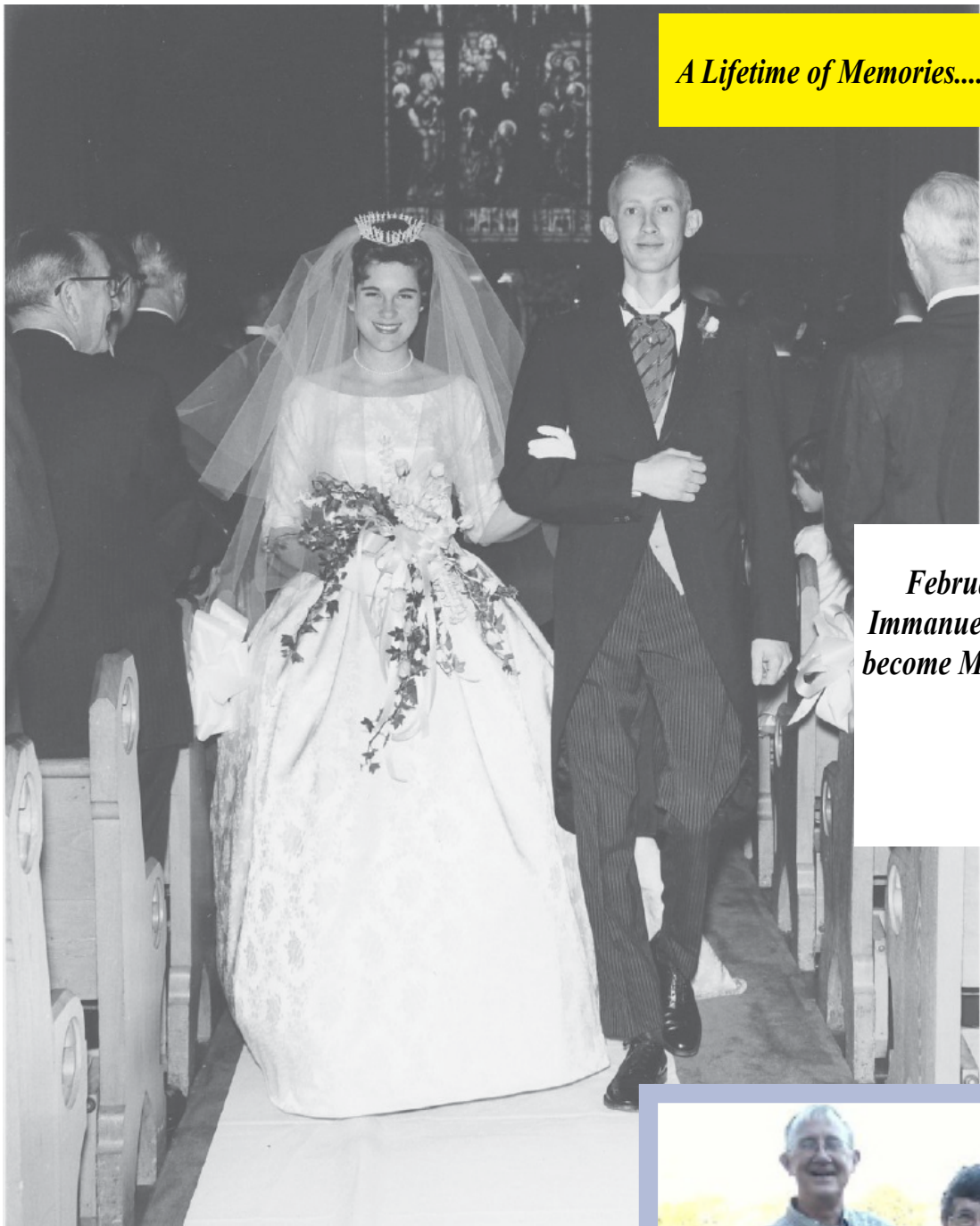
The Rev. John Moffett Smith
and Eleanor Harrison Booth
August 18, 1962
Seminary Chapel



Rollin Lee Huntington and Ann Norris Edmonds
June 20, 1970, Zabriskie Chapel
Officiated by the Rev. H. Coleman McGehee, Jr.

Rollin and Ann are standing on what is now the enclosed narthex of Zabriskie Chapel. The slate blue wooden doors behind them were replaced with glass.

A Lifetime of Memories....She grew-up at Immanuel!



February 8, 1964, lifelong Immanuel member Edna Knight become Mrs. John E. Roberts, Jr.

John Roberts



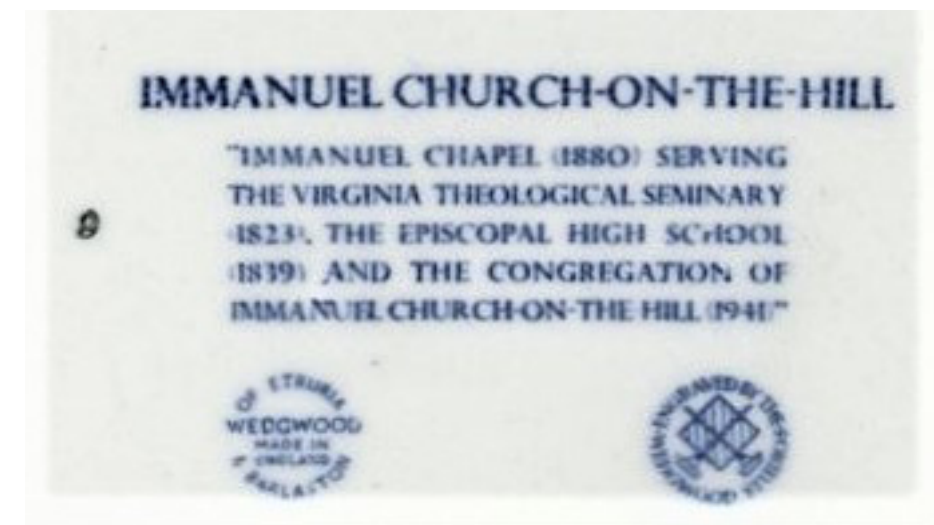
John and Edna at Immanuel's annual Pumpkin Patch, with fellow volunteer and parishioner Bryant Mitchell.



One of the Roberts' Commemorative Wedgwood plates, with an inscription on the back that reads:

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

“Immanuel Chapel (1880) Serving the Virginia Theological Seminary (1823), The Episcopal High School (1839) and the Congregation of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill (1941)”





Bride Annie poses with (*from left*): Eliza Brennan (sister of the bride), Lizanne Currie Brennan (mother of the bride), and Barbara Currie (grandmother of the bride). Annie and David's intimate wedding was the marriage at Zabriskie after the COVID 19 outbreak the prior spring.

Several months after Annie's wedding, Hilary Clausen Parker ([see page 22](#)) held her nuptials in the Seminary Memorial Garden, which is framed by several walls of the original Seminary Chapel.



College/Trade School Scholarship for Seniors and Undergrads **The Episcopal Church Women**

Attention all high school seniors and college undergraduates:

All Episcopal students going to community college, 4 year college, trade, and technical and vocational school are eligible to apply for a scholarship from the Episcopal Church Women.

Deadline is June 30, 2023.

All information is available for download at the link below.

Kathy Jimerson - ECW Scholarship Chairman

katiesj2007@comcast.net



(Above, from left, back row) The Rev. J. Randolph “Randy” Alexander, the Rev. Susan D. Parsons, Associate Rector of Immanuel, and Bishop Smith gather around the altar with members of the Horne family and their sponsors. (Below) Father Randy exchanges smiles with children from the Godly Play class who approach the altar to witness the baptisms up close.



The Horne Family Baptism

The Rt. Rev. Dabney Tyler Smith, Visiting Bishop
Diocese of Southwest Florida



Sydney, serving as Crucifer and Isaac, serving Acolyte, lead the choir in the recessional out of Immanuel Chapel on April 16, 2023.

Highlights of Holy Week:



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Easter Sunday

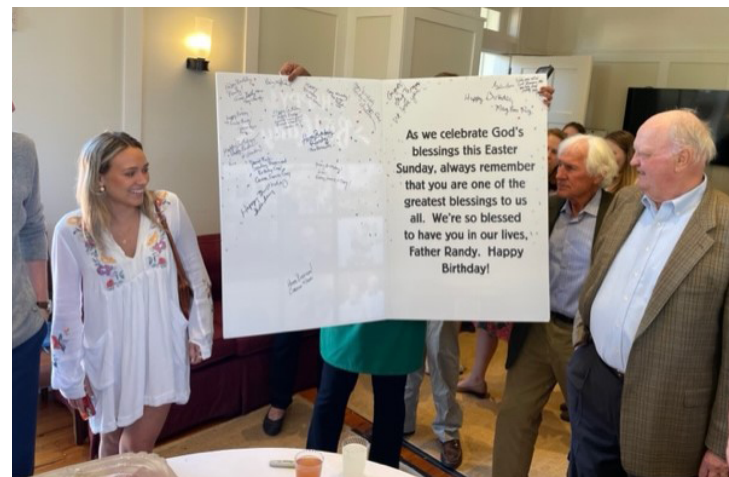


Immanuelites

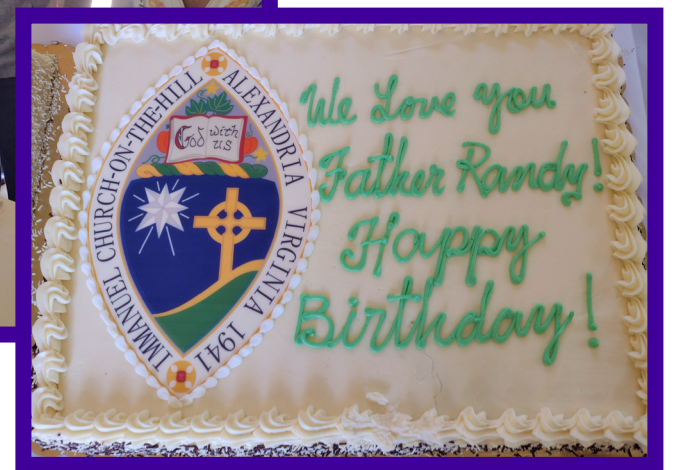
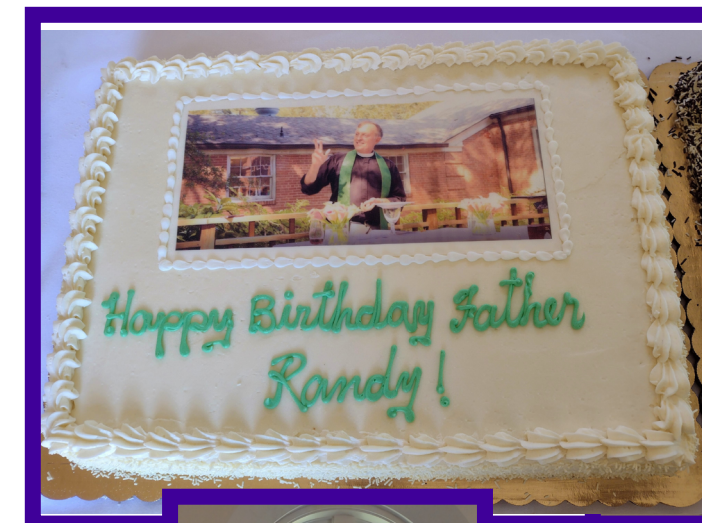
An Easter Sunday Birthday for Our Rector Immanuel Chapel, the Parlor: April 9, 2023



There was plenty of room for parishioners to sign Father Randy's oversized birthday card (below and left). A smaller card and crayons were available for preschool-aged parishioners to "sketch" their birthday wishes.



As we celebrate God's blessings this Easter Sunday, always remember that you are one of the greatest blessings to us all. We're so blessed to have you in our lives. Father Randy. Happy Birthday!



As the Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr. serves slices of his chocolate and carrot birthday cakes -- and fresh fruit -- on biodegradable plates, parishioners and his sons look on (from left) Andrew, Peter and William, with William's girlfriend Bailey. Since Father Randy's birthday fell on Easter Sunday, his staff couldn't resist a coffee hour celebration. The Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander arrived later; straight from St. Dunstan's Bethesda, where she serves as Rector.

Photos courtesy of Kevin Wensing.

Congratulations to Our VTS Graduate



Mitzi J. Budde D.Min and the Very Rev. Ian S. Markhan, Ph.D., Dean and President of VTS with a presentation for Deacon Janettarose.

A recent Seminarian of Immanuel, the Rev. Deacon Janettarose Greene graduated from the Virginia Theological Seminary on May 11, 2023.

She also received the **2023 Susan Ford Chair**, a gift awarded in the estimation of the Dean and Faculty to a member of the graduating class who has exhibited a strong commitment to the community life and mission of the Seminary.

Deacon Janettarose is headed to serve at St. Mary's, Arlington, her sponsoring parish.



The Rev. Deacon Janettarose Greene is standing far right in the photo above (first row, right of center).

Photos courtesy of VTS.edu

Immanuelites Attend **OPERATION WELCOME HOME**: The Vietnam War Commemoration

A Special Salute to our Vietnam War Veterans and their loved ones

The National Mall JFK Hockey Fields and Potomac Park, May 11-13, 2023



Long-time members and military veterans Kevin Wensing (*in hat*), Captain, US Navy, and Bryant Mitchell (*second from right*), Vietnam War US Army chat with Colonel Heather Marie, US Army and fellow veteran Mark Otto, US Marine Corps.



HELP WANTED



We are pleased to pass on job advertisements from Immanuel and Shrine Mont Camps.



NURSES NEEDED AT SHRINE MONT CAMPS

Last week, 35 cabin counselors and lead staff members gathered in Richmond for an overnight retreat and training in preparation for the start of Shrine Mont Camps in June. Nearly all staff positions are filled, but *we are still looking for camp nurses*. This is a great gig for a school nurse who is off for the summer. Please spread the word!

https://shrinemontcamps.campmanagement.com/p/register_staff_m.php



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
Alexandria, VA

SUMMER INTERN

Summary: We are looking for one or more summer interns to assist with implementation of our new IT-related needs, and other administrative activities at the church. Duties include -- but are not limited to -- the following:

1. Database development for several outreach ministries,
2. Support Immanuel Communication activities (monthly newsletter, special bulletins, etc),
3. Create a facilities and safety handbook,
4. Scripting and shooting “how to” videos on the operation of some office equipment,
5. Update and maintain an inventory of church capital items—for casualty insurance, facility cost modeling and to update tax depreciation schedules.
6. Annual audit data collection,
7. Clean out closets/filing cabinets of unneeded/duplicate files and obsolete materials,
8. Other special projects the intern finds both interesting and needed to support church administration.

Background: Some college experience with basic proficiency in Microsoft Office suite.

Timing and Hours: Negotiable. We require a minimum of 20 hours a week in-office (located in Zabriskie Chapel with abundant free parking and on bus routes). Employment will start in mid-June and last a minimum of 9 weeks -- ideally longer, depending in the specific limitations of the selected candidate.

Payment: \$2,000 stipend.

How to Apply: Send a cover letter and your résumé to office@icoh.net or via facsimile (703)370-0837 before noon June 1st.

Hi! Happenings

May 27	All Day	Immanuel's Weekend at Shrine Mont	Orkney Springs, VA
May 28	9:30 a.m.	The Day of Pentecost Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
	11:00 a.m.	The Day of Pentecost Holy Eucharist Rite II with Confirmation, The Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration	Shrine Mont Orkney Springs, VA
May 30	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Zabriskie Chapel
May 31	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
June 1	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study with Clergy: The Gospel of Mark <i>No prior participation or study necessary</i>	Online via Zoom
June 2	6:00 p.m.	The Shrinemonters at The 1823 Café	VTS Campus
	8:30 p.m.	Compline	Online via Zoom
June 3	4:00 p.m.	Zabriskie Society Reception -- If interested in becoming a member, please attend.	Scott Lounge, VTS campus/ 3737 Seminary Road
	6:30 p.m.	Community Dinner for Refugees	Parish Hall
June 4	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II featuring music by The Shrinemonters	Immanuel Chapel
	11:45 a.m.	Forum Hour: Five Talents CEO Dale Stanton-Hoyle "Transforming Lives Through Economic Empowerment: Five Talents' Ministry Around the World" , with an introduction from Jim Snow	Immanuel Chapel
June 6	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Zabriskie Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Benedictine Community Group Meeting	Online via Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist Rite II	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study with Clergy: The Gospel of Mark	Online via Zoom
	8:30 p.m.	Compline	Online via Zoom

June 11	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II featuring music by The Ruthie Christino Trio	Immanuel Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Parish Potluck Picnic	Zabriskie Gardens
	ALL DAY	Sign-up for Christmas Families in August (backpacks and school supplies)	Posters in the Narthex (both chapels)

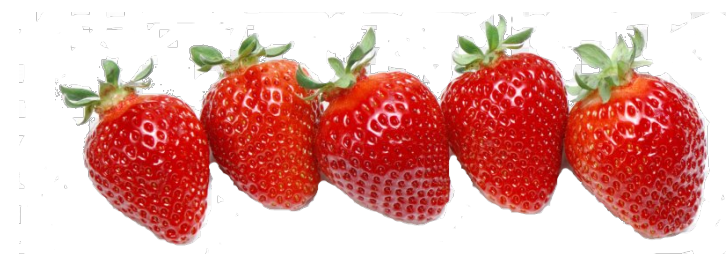
**Come to a Festive Thank You Reception!
Honor Parishioners Committed to Immanuel's Strong Future**

Zabriskie Society

Please come and enjoy a thank you reception on Saturday, June 3, 4-6 p.m., in Scott Lounge on the VTS campus. We will honor and thank parishioners providing for Immanuel's strong financial future through a planned gift.

You can also learn more about planned giving and how your generosity and planned gift can continue to support a strong future for Immanuel.

Enjoy refreshments including strawberry shortcake with fresh-picked strawberries! Please RSVP by **this Wednesday, May 24, 2023**, to Danette (Dani) Kauffman, danettekauffman@starpower.net or you can use Immanuel's RSVP line by dialing 703-370-6555 and press "9".



Come one and all, and join the Shrinemonters on Friday, June 2nd for a night of music and fellowship at the 1823 Café - known colloquially as “the Pub” - on the grounds of the Virginia Theological Seminary.

We’ll kick off a two set performance at about 6:00 p.m., and play right through until about 8:00 p.m. There will be plenty of old favorites and singing along is always encouraged. No cover charge, beer and wine for \$6 and highly affordable pub fare (try the Café Burger for \$12.00 with a side salad for only \$3.00). The 1823 Café is located next to Scott Lounge, just behind the little white post office just off Seminary Road. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact Doug John at djohn@jhenegy.com.



Extreme poverty robs the human spirit of hope. Immanuel’s longtime mission partner, Five Talents, brings hope to individuals, families and communities through economic empowerment. In partnership with the global church, Five Talents’ provides literacy, numeracy and business training to men and women living in extreme poverty so they can find sustainable pathways out of it.

Join Five Talents’ CEO, Dale Stanton-Hoyle, **on June 4th during Forum Hour** to learn how this transformative model is making a sustainable impact for millions of people around the world. Hear inspiring stories from women and men who participate in Five Talents’ programs and see how Immanuel’s prayer and support is helping this ministry answer Jesus’s call to minister good news to the poor.

We are grateful for you all and for our partnership with Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill!

Looking forward to seeing in Immanuel Chapel on the 4th.



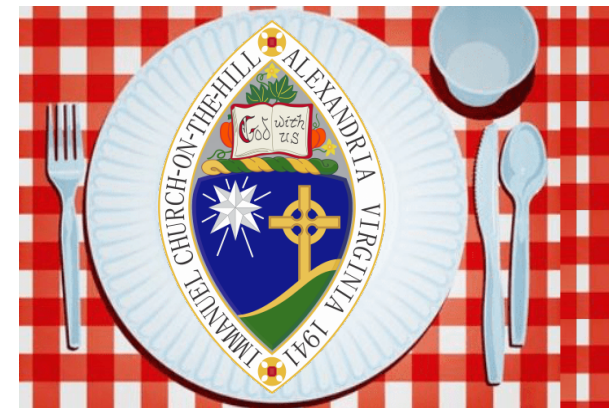


PARISH POTLUCK PICNIC

Sunday, June 11th, 12 Noon - 2:00 p.m.

Zabriskie Parish Hall and Memorial Gardens

Parishioners are asked to bring a dish to share, which will serve 8-10 people. This can be your "signature" picnic dish -or- use this guide (first letter of last name):



A-K: Main course dish: Sliced ham, fried/roasted chicken, sandwiches, casseroles, quiche, chicken/tuna salads, pasta dishes, vegetarian specialties, etc.

L-P: Appetizer: cheese & crackers, deviled eggs, vegetable trays, fruit, salsa,

Q-S: Side dish: salads, coleslaw, beans

T-Z: Dessert

Please bring your dishes (marked with your name to ensure their return to you) to the kitchen before the service.

Volunteers! Please contact Caroline Bergmark (cbergmark@yahoo.com). Volunteers are needed Sunday at 11 AM for set up and at 2 PM for clean-up. Let her know which shift you want.



Primary Elections coming up in Virginia

Primary elections for Virginia Delegates and Senators have begun! **Primary Election Day is June 20**, however, early voting has started in some districts. Primary elections are held only in districts where there are within-party challenges for the nomination to run in the November election; in the rest of the districts candidates for nomination are unopposed or are chosen by conventions. **There will be no primaries in Alexandria this year, but there will be in Arlington and part of Fairfax County.**

Do you know which Virginia delegate and senate district you live in? *Not so fast!* All district boundaries have been re-drawn in the last year, and yours may have changed. To find out for sure which districts you live in, go to <https://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/> and enter your address.

Senate

The following website depicts the new Senate districts and the ethnic composition of each district.

<https://www.virginiaredistricting.org/legdistricting/comments/plan/549/1>

Districts in Northern Virginia with primaries for State Senate are 32, 33, 35, 36, 37 and 40.

The following website lists the candidates for each Virginia Senate primary election:

https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia_State_Senate_elections,_2023

House of Delegates

Districts in Northern Virginia with primaries for State Delegate are: District 2 (Arlington), District 7 (Western Fairfax), District 15 (Fairfax County) and District 19 (Fairfax/Prince William).

The following website depicts the new Delegate districts and the ethnic composition of each district.

<https://www.virginiaredistricting.org/legdistricting/comments/plan/548/1>

The following website lists the candidates for each Virginia Delegate primary election:

https://ballotpedia.org/Virginia_House_of_Delegates_elections,_2023

Another good source of information about the Virginia primary can be found at:

<https://cardinalnews.org/2023/04/20/2023-virginia-general-assembly-elections-southwest-and-southside/> which has links to information provided by Virginia Public Access Project.

If you have college students or other family members who will be away from home, remind them to apply for an absentee ballot.

Additional info for Arlington and Fairfax residents:

For those of us who live in Arlington or Fairfax counties, there are primaries for Democratic candidates for certain offices in the November elections. Primaries are all open in Virginia. This means that you may vote in this year's primary without being a Democrat and your voice will be heard.

Remember – if you have changed addresses or even apartments in the same building, you must change your voter registration. Even if you haven't moved, your polling place may have. So check on the web sites.

Arlington County is trying out Ranked Choice Voting in the primary for the Arlington County Board.

Republicans used this process in the 2021 primaries. There is a lot of information on the Arlington election website concerning how this type of voting, in which you are able to vote for your first, second, and third choice, is tabulated. Information also includes a great example using favorite ice cream flavors.

The following websites are great sources of information:

- <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Elections>
- <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections>

Wondering about MD or DC elections? There are no primary elections in Maryland or the District of Columbia in 2023.



BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY, Saturday, June 17th Online via Zoom

Immanuel's monthly Saturday morning Breakfast Bible Study meets the third Saturday of each month, currently online via Zoom, beginning at 8 a.m. Our theme this year is **Gratitude**; next month we will read Isaiah 45:1–7 *“I myself shall go before you...I shall shatter the bronze gateways... give you secret treasures...I am Yahweh, who call you by your name”* using the African Model of Reflection. For more information, please contact Chrissie Crosby at cmcfaddencrosby@gmail.com.

Join Our Breakfast Bible Study via the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95954506553?pwd=Y05kOG1mK25abTZqUURvVk4wOTRBdz09>

Meeting ID: 959 5450 6553 /Passcode: 027913

Newcomers Are Welcome to the Benedictine Community's HYBRID Meeting June 20th, Parish Hall

Join us June 6th Online via Zoom, 7 p.m.
June 20th in the Parish Hall, 7p.m.

Yes, we want you to join us! If you are attracted to having more contemplation and prayer in your life, you are invited to become part of the Benedictine Community at Immanuel. We'd love to have you join us the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 7p.m.-8p.m. On June 6th we'll meet virtually via Zoom, and on June 20th we'll host a hybrid meeting, allowing you to join us in the Zabriskie Parish Hall.



The Community reflects on the tenets of St. Benedict such as humility, silence, and prayer. Individual reflection is guided by short readings from a Benedictine-inspired book. We recently started "*Shaped by the End You Live For: Thomas Merton's Monastic Spirituality*" by Bonnie B. Thurston -- so this would be a great time to join us. As a Benedictine Community, we gather as companions on the journey with one another while drawing wisdom from a few pages from selected reading material.

If this opportunity appeals to you and you would like more information, please contact one of the following Dana Hengst (Dana.Hengst@gmail.com), Barbara Fornoff (cr8vweaver@gmail.com), or David Atwood (David_Atwood@hotmail.com).



Consider Making a Donation to Immanuel Church-On-The-Hill

As a 501(c)3 faith-based nonprofit, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill depends on donations. If you feel inclined to help this church and its outreach initiatives, please scan the code at right to make an online donation on our website at <https://www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org/ways-to-give1.html>. Thank you.



IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE: A Festival for the Jesus Movement



July 9 - 12
Baltimore

It's All About Love: A Festival for the Jesus Movement

Churchwide Festival in Baltimore, Maryland THIS JULY
Baltimore Convention Center and Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor

At last – we're gathering for a churchwide festival and revival in Baltimore!

Across the church and around the world, we are hungry for revival and renewal. Join us for "It's All About Love," a churchwide festival of worship, learning, community, and action for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, to be held Sunday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 12, at the Baltimore Convention Center. **Register by June 1 for Early Bird rate of \$185.**

"It's All About Love" is organized around three Jesus Movement festival "tents": Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation, and Creation Care. Get ready for evening revival worship and daytime speakers, workshops, panels, and practice opportunities around the big tent themes. Stick with one tent or explore across the tents, following the themes of: worship and liturgy, formation, justice and advocacy, leadership, preaching, stewardship, and youth and children.

Featured speakers, preachers, and artists to include Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, President of the House of Deputies Julia Ayala Harris, Brian McLaren, the Rev. Mariama White-Hammon, Dr. Kwok Pui-lan, Sarah Augustine, Lilly Lewin, Dr. Catherine Meeks, the Very Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, the Rev. Winnie Varghese, Live Hymnal & Friends, and more!

Lodging: Discounted room blocks have been reserved for participants at the following hotels, each an easy walk to the Baltimore Convention Center:

- Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor – primary hotel (\$169)
- Marriott Inner Harbor-Camden Yards – (\$149) (click link or call (877) 212-5752 or (800) 228-9290)



IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, VA 22304-5200
www.icoh.net



Look for The Newsletter-on-the-Hill July 1st:

Although ***The Almond Tree*** is no more, you will get a taste of one feature article in two upcoming issues. Winners are winners no matter what, so Aleta will publish articles based on the two other winning entries in her Almond Tree Quarterly story call contest “Did You Know”.

