

IMMANUEL CHURCH-ON-THE-HILL

Parish Notes

December 17, 2023

IN THE NAME OF 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: Natalie Doyle Hennin, Rollin Huntington, Marianne Ingold, Frances Johnson, Joseph, Kenny, Ann MacNamara, Cynthia Morton, Linda and Cy Murphy, Tony Rogers, Catherine Sinclair, John Smucker, Norma Taliaferro, and Francine Wargo.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Alice, Jack Allen, Kathryn Anschutz, Dave and Betsy Fox Berry, David Craig, Justine Claypoole, Jean Couban, The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Cynthia, Steve Davis, Dana DeCecco, Joseph Fabian, Cathy Fick, Gerald, Linda Gill, Betty Harris, Betty Hicks, Louise Jackson, Peter and Joanne, John, Katja, Tom Kellner, Charlotte Kellogg, Joseph and Elaine Kelly, Winnie Kidd, Marcia MacDonald, Marge McGoff, Joe Miceli, Stephen Miller, McQuade Milligan, Candy Morgan, Mary Muniz, Lysbeth, Jessi Napolitano, Shelby Ochs Owen, Paul, Lilly Pinner, Sarah Pollach, Jennie Rae, Michael Rathsack, Rebecca, Jim Rehnke, Sue Rehnke, Larry Rhoades, Roger, George Rustigian, Brian Tolson, Graham Tomlinson, Fred Vipperman, Mark Vipperman, Rosemary Wensing, Ryan Willis, and Richard Zitelli.

Pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Asna Amiri, Tiffany McCaslin, Owen Malone, Mike Michaelis, Kameran Onley, David Peabody, Nikki Perry, Kendra Smyth, Eve Anderson, Martha Byron, James Henry, JoAnn Toledo, David Phillips, Holly Morton, and Katydean Price.

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

Those who have died: Edwin Milton Yoder. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

Godly Play Schedule Update December-January 2023

- ☆ NO GODLY PLAY beginning **today** through January 7th, the day of our *Children's Epiphany Pageant*, 10:30 a.m., Immanuel Chapel.
- ☆ On January 14th, 21st and 28th we will have Godly Play at 10:30 a.m. in Immanuel Chapel (Octagon Room).
- ☆ On February 4th we will return to our normal schedule, and Godly Play will move back to the Worship Center at 9 a.m.

Questions? Contact Sarah Glassco at glasscos@gmail.com.

IMMANUEL FAMILIES:
Sign-up for the Epiphany Pageant here!



Announcements

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Prayer @ 10:00, Tuesday, December 19th, Zabriskie Chapel

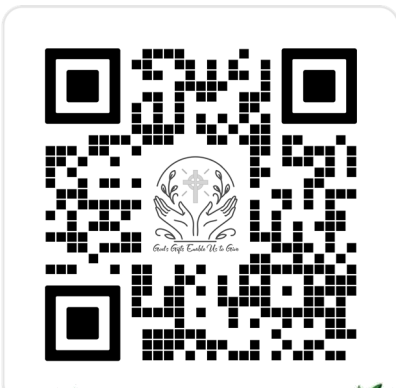
**Wednesday Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 20th @ 12 Noon, Zabriskie Chapel**

Evening Compline, Friday, December 22nd, 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

Have you made your 2024 pledge? **THERE'S STILL TIME, JUST GO ONLINE!** Immanuel's Every Member Pledge campaign



We are trying to conclude Immanuel's [Every Member Pledge Campaign](#), as the Treasurer and Vestry are hard at work preparing a budget for next year.



Your financial pledge is vital to maintain and grow this parish, its ministries, and outreach initiatives. As of Thursday December 14th, we had received 115 pledges for \$532,808 -- including 16 new pledgers.

You may pledge on our website, by using the QR code at left, or by asking an usher for a blank pledge card and envelope.

Together, we make a difference by giving back to God from the gifts that God has first given us.



Advent/Epiphany Service Schedule

Beginning today, Immanuel will *temporarily* return to a two-service worship schedule through the end of January. We have two Eucharists each Sunday, and our 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist returns February 4, 2024.

December 24	10:30 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Advent with Holy Eucharist Rite II	
	4:40 p.m.	<i>Christmas Prelude with Choir and Brass</i>	
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass</i>	Immanuel Chapel
	8:40 p.m.	<i>Christmas Prelude with Choral Ensemble and Brass</i>	
	9:00 p.m.	<i>Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Rite II with Brass</i>	
December 25	11:00 a.m.	<i>Christmas Day Holy Eucharist with Organ and Carols</i>	Zabriskie Chapel
December 31	8:00 a.m.	First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	First Sunday After Christmas with Holy Eucharist Rite II	Immanuel Chapel
January 7, 2024	8:00 a.m.	The First Sunday After Epiphany with Holy Eucharist Rite I	Zabriskie Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Children's Epiphany Pageant with Holy Eucharist Rite II followed by a Cookie Party in the Welcome Center	Immanuel Chapel

CHRISTMAS GREENS, FLOWERS and SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC DEDICATIONS

This Christmas season you are invited to make a donation to help offset the cost of our Christmas greens and flowers, and/or the special music at our Christmas Eucharists. Tomorrow is the last day to make a memorial or thanksgiving donation for a loved one, or to make a thanksgiving dedication for some blessing. Please complete and drop this form off along with your check: (1) in the collection plate, (2) black bin on the Parish Office' door, (3) place it in the wooden alms box in the Zabriskie narthex. Names will be printed in our Christmas bulletins for all donations received by noon tomorrow, MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH. Sponsors and donors for The Brass Trio will list on [our "Worship"/ "Music at Immanuel" webpage](#) for at least 4 months. Any amount is welcome and greatly appreciated.



GREENS/FLOWERS: \$ _____

Given by:

Phone Number: ()

In Thanksgiving for:

In Memory of:



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC: GENERAL \$ _____

Given by:

Phone Number: ()

In Thanksgiving for:

In Memory of:

Christmas Brass Trio at Immanuel

Please indicate your special gift below with a checkmark .

Strings **SPONSOR \$100**

Strings **PATRON \$200**

Given by:

Phone Number: ()

In Thanksgiving for:

In Memory of:



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

3606 Seminary Road/ Alexandria, VA 22304-5200



**Christmas Families Update #4:
INGATHERING OF GIFTS AND SPECIAL COLLECTION
On the way to a glorious finale**

This table shows the families referred to us by Community and Human Services (including five families added recently), the Lazarus Ministry (Episcopal Region IV), and New Hope Housing

	Families	Parents	Children	All people
On our list from DCHS+	98	118	224	342
Signed up for	51	60	101	161
Remaining	47	58	123	181

Ingathering and blessings of the gifts, the great celebration. This will be a very special day in our life as a parish. We will praise God and lift our own spirits as we lift our voices in the glorious singing in *Lessons and Carols*. The blessing of the gifts with which we bring the good news of Christmas into the world is an integral part of this service, showing the unity of in-reach and outreach as inseparable parts of faith. At the forum hour we will show the same spirit in the wrapping of the gifts for children who were not "adopted", always an event of both great purpose in outreach and of great fellowship. See you all there.

We still have 123 children and 58 parents to provide for. These gifts will be wrapped and sorted at the forum hour. This year in addition to the main gift each child will receive a stocking stuffer so they have two things to open. For example, a child indicating interest in arts and science will receive a nice art kit and paper and a small science toy (bought at half price, \$6). A kit to make a friendship bracelet is another stocking stuffer. ((Kudos to Linda Serabian for this wonderful idea.) With more children than last year, and two gifts to wrap for each, **wrapping and sorting will be a massive task.** We start at 9 in the parish hall and go on until finished **with an intermission from 10:15 to noon for Lessons and Carols.**

Last Saturday, December 9th, Connie Kurz and Laura Snow lead a work party **assigning 800 books, two to three books for each child.** The stacks of books will be wrapped and joined with the other gifts for a family.

Many used things for the boutique already came in. Remember to bring any used **toys and children's books, calendars you receive in the mail, and gently used clothing and blankets** this Sunday. The boutique's set up is scheduled for tomorrow, December 18th, starting at 9 a.m. at the Department of Community and Human Services, 4850 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, VA 22311.

The Christmas Families Team buys gifts and books at a great discount. So while every dollar spent goes far, it still takes a lot of money to get gifts for 123 children, a small gift for 58 parents, and books for everyone.

The purpose of the **special collection** is to make buying all of things possible. **Please contribute generously.**

Our former Rector the late Reverend Bill Dols once told me "Christmas Families is a ministry of things". But Christmas Families is so much more. It is about things that speak. Things that speak of God's all-embracing love, of joy, of learning, of spirits rekindled, of "a *new heavens and a new earth*" (Isaiah 65:17), of the coming of God's Kingdom into the here and now.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS: TWO Luncheons in ONE WEEK

We're hosting two luncheons this month. Come to either or come to both!

DECEMBER 19: CHRISTMAS HYMN AND CAROL SING, ZABRISKIE CHAPEL

Join us Tuesday, December 19th at 12:15 P.M. for a festive Christmas luncheon in the Parish Hall. Don't bring a brown bag for this one. After luncheon we will adjourn to the Chapel for a hymn/carol sing, with Dr. Jane Tavernier at the organ and fellow senior Rick Glassco with his bell chimes. **Please RSVP to Karen Besser at Karen.Besser@gmail.com**, so that there will be plenty of food and yummy desserts.

DECEMBER 20: GOODWIN HOUSE LUNCHEON

Join us at Goodwin House-Alexandria for lunch on Wednesday, December 20th at noon. **Please RSVP to Susan Kernan skernan40@aol.com or the Rev. Susan Parsons sparsons@icoh.net.**

EASY WAY TO SIGN UP: **DECEMBER 2023 - JANUARY 2024**

Sign up to Serve in our Sunday Services **Through Advent and Christmastide** ONLINE via Our **Red SignUp Genius Button**



Would consider serving as a lay minister? If so, please sign up to serve as a Reader, Intercessor, Usher, Acolyte, Altar Guild, Crucifer and/or Chalice Bearer online via [SignUp Genius](#) for Immanuel by visiting the landing page of our website at www.ICOH.net and clicking on the red button at left. ***We especially need people to serve during Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.***

If you are a first-timer and need training, please contact Agnes at the office on **Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.** (ext. #206), or via email at asoos@icoh.net. Finally, if you need training for a particular ministry, please send a request to sparsons@icoh.net or indicate so in the comments box under your name on the online form. Thank you!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

EYC Shrine Mont Weekend! January 12th-15th

The EYC has reserved the Saint Andrews House at Shrine Mont during The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend, January 12–15th for a fun youth program of skiing, tubing, and fellowship. We'll also offer hiking, relaxation, games, puzzles and more.

Episcopal Youth Community youths (6th – 12th graders) and families (depending on space availability) are welcome to join us for all three nights, come for one or two days, or just visit for the day.

For all interested in this trip, please scan the QR code at right to register or contact Brian Rush at james.b.rush2@uscg.mil.

Scan to Register



GAUDETE SUNDAY

Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, takes its name from the Latin word *Gaudete*, which means “rejoice.” It is the first word in the proper Introit for the third Sunday of Advent, from the Roman missal.

It is often symbolized by a pink or rose color, hence the traditional pink candle in Advent wreaths.

The readings for this day are characterized by joy and expectancy, as we look towards the celebration of Our Lord’s Nativity.



A Brief History of LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Festival of Lessons and Carols as we know it dates to December 1918, at King’s College, Cambridge, in the days immediately following the end of World War I. The Rev. Eric Milner-White, Dean of the College, reflected on his experiences as a British army chaplain and developed this liturgy as an opportunity to remember God’s great promises, even in the midst of so much suffering and untold devastation. The lessons speak of God’s great plan of salvation, articulated by Israel’s prophets and poets, and realized in the birth of Jesus Christ.

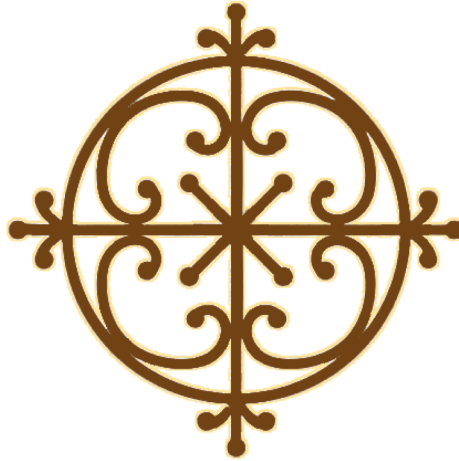
There are Advent and Christmas versions of the liturgy throughout the Anglican Communion, as this service has become a deeply beloved tradition for millions worldwide. The readings for this service in particular were chosen to highlight God’s promise of remaking and redeeming all things. Beginning with Christ, God has promised to make all things new.

The funeral for [Betty Wanamaker](#) will be held Saturday, December 30th, at 10:30 AM at Goodwin House Alexandria. A Committal for the Interment of ashes will follow at 2 PM in the [Memorial Garden at Zabriskie Chapel](#).

*Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her.
May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace, and rise in glory.*

SEEKING NEW VESTRY MEMBERS

Our annual meeting is scheduled for the end of January, when we will elect new Vestry members to begin three-year terms. If you are interested in discussing what Vestry service at Immanuel entails, or if you are feeling called to stand, please contact Senior Warden Kristi Kubista-Hovis kristi_kubista@yahoo.com or Father Randy at ralexander@icoh.net.



Virginia Theological Seminary Cordially Invites you to the

OPENING AND DEDICATION OF THE WELCOME CENTER

with its exhibits: The St. Francis Crèche Collection and the St. Nicholas exhibit

by the Rt. Rev. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia,

followed by light refreshments and

The Service of Lessons and Carols

with presentation of The Dean's Cross to

Ellen Wofford Hawkins

daughter of The Rev. Dr. J. Barney Hawkins IV

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Dedication at 3 p.m., The Welcome Center

Service at 4:30 p.m., Immanuel Chapel

*To attend, you **must register online in advance** for any and all events of the day, including the celebration dinner that follows the service. To RSVP, please find this bulletin on Immanuel's website and click on the cross above or the link below.*

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7615414/Advent-III>

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
 Reggie Hayes (r.hayes9@me.com) Postulant Intern
 Daisy Colón (dcolon@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
 Aleta Y. Powell (apowell@icoh.net) Parish Administrator
 Tamika Martin (tmartin@icoh.net) Audio Visual Technician
 Gilma Balcarcel Nursery Coordinator
 Stuart Dahlinger Sexton

THE VESTRY

Kristi Kubista-Hovis Senior Warden
 Gerry Anderson Junior Warden: Building and Grounds, Creation Care
 Peter Kent Junior Warden: Administration
 Amy Thomas Adult Formation and Discipleship
 Brad Ashton Stewardship and Planned Giving
 Mollie Lambert Outreach
 Kathy Lloyd Senior Ministry
 Kristi Kubista-Hovis and Kathy Lloyd Children Youth and Family Ministries
 Julie Bruns Pastoral Care
 David Atwood Social Justice
 Taylor Houck Communications
 Caroline Bergmark Evangelism and Newcomers
 Matt Haskin Worship
 Caroline Bergmark and Taylor Houck Fellowship
 Sydney Onley Youth Representative (nonvoting member)
 Caroline Bergmark Registrar

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. J. Barney Hawkins, IV
 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, Fax: 703-370-0837
www.icoh.net



Ways to GIVE