

The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church Prince William County

January 19, 2025

Pastor's Corner "Sanctity of Life"

Forty-one years ago, on January 22nd, 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated the third Sunday of the month as a day calling our nation to "prayer and action...to uphold the sanctity of human life." Along with our Diocese, we use this weekend as a time of remembering, praying, teaching, lamenting, and reawakening to the value of each individual person, a value that begins within the womb and continues until the final breath...and beyond, since our life with God continues into eternity!

This Sunday, our Scripture readings highlight the value that our Father places on every life, along with the call to honor, care for, and protect every life:

- Genesis 1:26-27 declares that every life is created in the image of God. The articulation of this truth is unique to Jews and Christians. No other religion or philosophy contains the remarkable, image-bearing-reality that is foundational to how we understand ourselves and every person—our eternal Creator has imbued each person with eternal value.
- Psalm 82:1-4 issues a mandate that recurs throughout the Law, the Prophets, the teachings of Jesus, and the teaching of the apostles: "Rescue the week and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 82:4). Because our

- Father equally values each life, he commands his people to actively protect society's vulnerable ones.
- Jesus's parable in Luke 14:12-14 calls for hospitality and care to be given to those living with disabilities and those struggling with poverty. The resources we have are to be generously shared with those whom—in others' eyes—have little to offer. We are to care for each person with the care of Jesus, valuing them for who they are as they are.
- Philippians 2:1-11 sings of how deeply Jesus, the eternal Son of God, values every life. He "emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of man...becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross," to rescue each person who believes in him (Philippians 2:8-11). His incarnation conveys the value of our humanity, and the offering of his own life conveys the beloved worth of every human life. As Peter writes, "you were ransomed...not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ" (1 Peter 1:18-19).

On Sunday we'll reflect more on these truths, listening to a panel of women and men whose convictions about the sanctity of life overflow into action. I look forward to being with you to hear these stories, and to worship our God who gives to each person "life and breath and everything" (Acts 17:25).

Your Pastor in Christ,

P.S. Read below for details on joining Anglicans for Life for their annual <u>Anglican Prayer and Worship Service</u> on January 24, 2025 at Falls Church Anglican.

INFORMATION

January 19, 2025

Worship

Please join us in person each Sunday at 8:00am or 10:30am at 7075 Hoadly Road, Manassas, VA. You may also join us at 10:30am via livestream.

Morning Prayer is offered via Zoom every Thursday at 8am. https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85934655171
Meeting ID: 859 3465 5171

Midday prayer is offered Tuesday – Friday in the Nave at noon.

Visit <u>iachurch.org/worship</u> for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 26, 2025 Annual Meeting
Please RSVP for children's activities (infants5th grade) during the Annual Meeting
to mbyers@iachurch.org.

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WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anglicans for Life: On January 24. 2025, we have the opportunity to attend, at the Falls Church Anglican Church, the diocesan Worship and Prayer service for the unborn. For those who would like to attend the March they may take the bus leaving from the Falls Church Anglican. Round trip bus tickets may be procured at Anglicansforlife.org/January-events (https://anglicansforlife.org). Please contact Cathleen Giannini at cragchat1@gmail.com or 703-851-0908 if you have any questions.

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a <u>Protect His House Active Shooter Awareness Seminar</u>. This event is designed to provide essential training and awareness on how to respond effectively to active shooter situations, specifically tailored for churches and places of worship.

Event Details:

- 2/8/25
- 9:00AM-12:00PM
- Immanuel Anglican Church 7075 Hoadly Rd Manassas, VA 20112

https://phhtraining.com/event/p-r-e-s-s-level-1-active-shooter-defense-manassas-virginia/

Use coupon code "IAC20%" to receive discount tickets

Why Attend?

In today's world, the safety of our congregations is not just important, it's our responsibility. This seminar will equip us with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect your community effectively.

Topics Covered:

- A data-based study of active shooter events
- Identifying the trends of these events
- How to properly train and identify your weaknesses

- A better understanding of useable Situational Awareness
- Threat Assessment
- Developing an action plan
- What to expect from a law enforcement response
- Survival Mindset
- Much, Much, More!

<u>Catherine Annand's Uganda Trip</u>: Catherine will be returning to Uganda for the month of April 2025. Please consider supporting her mission by donating directly to her SAMS missionary page <u>Catherine Annand - Donate to Anglican Missions Work</u> or by donating new reading glasses of varying strengths (all strengths needed); colored pencils - please no crayons, they will melt; children's clothing; jackets for ages 2-16 years; lightweight backpacks for school age children; and small educational toys. There is a bin for donations in the Immanuel Anglican Church Hallway.

Backpacks For Kids: Backpacks For Kids is back at King Elementary School for the 2024-25 school year! Each week Immanuel will provide weekend food to 40 kids in need. You can help by donating food from the Amazon Wish List, bringing food to Worship Sunday mornings (the collection box is to the left when you walk in the front door) or writing a check and including Backpacks For Kids in the memo. See iachurch.org/backpacks for details. We also need help packing bags and delivering food each month. If you are interested in helping pack or deliver food, contact mbyers@iachurch.org.

Mission and Outreach Food Cupboard:

The Food of the Month for January is tomato sauce in 15-ounce cans, a food that is always in high demand. A member of the Mission & Outreach Team delivered 142 pounds of food to the ACTS Hunger Prevention Center this week. The Assistant Director said to "tell your congregation thank you for the food donation. It's wonderful!"

FYI-The food cupboard has moved. After you enter the building,

turn left and walk down the hallway. Open the second door on your left. The food cupboard is on the left, next to the attic stairs, in the room where the chairs are stored.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Immanuel Kids: People love camping, and for good reason! You can take in nature, practice special skills, or just take time to relax in a new environment. And when it comes to camping, no one loved it as much as John the Baptist. In this 4-week series, kids will hear about John the Baptist's special role in preparing the way for Jesus and his ministry. John's story will help kids to say their camp motto, "I believe God gives me purpose. I believe God can speak to me. I believe God is powerful. I believe God's words are true."

Immanuel Youth Group: The youth group will meet on January 19. Students (6th-12th grade) are welcome to attend youth group. Every Sunday after service from 12:15 pm.-1:30 p.m. Lunch is provided. Join us as we learn from the Bible and the Anglican Catechism, eat food, and play games. For more information, contact Fr. Drew at Drew.McGinley@anglicanchaplains.org

<u>Sunday Nite Men's Bible Study:</u> Join us at 7pm in classroom 4 for one hour of Bible study, and half an hour of discussion. We'll have you out by 8:30! Promise!

Monday Men's Dinner: All men, that is IAC members and guests are invited to join us for some great fellowship and casual conversation at our weekly Monday Men's Dinner this time at *Chili's Grill & Bar*, located at 14432 Gideon Dr, Woodbridge, VA, this coming Monday, January 20 at 5:00 pm. New attendees are always welcome so come join us.

Monday Night Women's Bible Study: We needed to postpone our Bible Study on January 13, so we will meet on January 20 to continue our study of Romans using Warren Wiersbe's *How to be*

Right with God, Yourself, and Others, reading and discussing Chapter 7 (we will study Romans 8). We meet via Zoom from 7-8:30 pm. For more information about the Women's Monday Night Bible Study, contact Deb at dtomchek@aol.com or (703) 597-4136. Please join us!

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study: Join us as we dive into Beth Moore's <u>James: Mercy Triumphs</u>. In this 8 week study, we will learn that our heartbreaks, sickness and failures are not empty. Those holes in our hearts leave space for mercy to fill, making us complete. **Your story is powerful**. Tuesdays, starting October 22 at 10:00 am – noon in Room 1. In person or via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85953955885?pwd=U21UK1MvYWozRks1TXIBR2dwbWNyZz09

Meeting ID: 859 5395 5885 Passcode: 642280. No small groups. No compulsory sharing. Enjoy learning YOUR way. If you would like a study guide (you can go deeper with 5 days of course work each week), contact Barbara Finney at 703-405-2651 (call or text) or blynn56@verizon.net.

<u>Tuesday Ladies Dinner:</u> The next dinner will be at Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill, 2601 Prince William Parkway, Woodbridge, VA 22192 on January 21 at 5:30 pm. We get together to enjoy a meal monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Please RSVP to teharpster@comcast.net so a seat is reserved for you.

Women's book club will meet next on February 11th at 7 PM. We are reading, FOLLOW THE RIVER BY JAMES ALEXANDER THOM. We will meet at the home of Kathy Wescott (3708 Beaver Ford Dr. 22192). For any questions contact Cathleen Giannini at cragchat1@gmail.com or 703-851-0908. Happy Reading!!

<u>Thursday Evening Choir Rehearsal:</u> Please prayerfully consider joining the choir. It is a commitment requiring that we meet every Thursday from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Immanuel, where we learn to read and interpret the musical notation and practice anthems to be sung about every two weeks for the Sunday morning 10:30

AM worship service. With the help of additional members needed, we can even consider taking on an Easter cantata. All ages are welcome, both adult and youth. The Choir is a family That prays and works together within the Immanuel family, and we'd love to welcome you!

Saturday Morning Men's Discussion Group: The IAC men will not meet 1/18/25 due to the Men's Breakfast. The next meeting of the SMMDG will be on 1/25/25 at 8AM in IAC Classroom # 1 to continue our study of Genesis utilizing Dr. Wiersbe's third commentary in the "BE..." series - "BE AUTHENTIC." All IAC men are welcome and encouraged to join the group and invite others. Attendees can attest to the blessing these meetings have been in developing their knowledge of scripture and relationship with God. In preparation read Genesis 25 & 26 in your bibles, and Chapter One LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON --- ALMOST (pp.17 - 29) in the Commentary, and ponder the questions on pages 30 and 31. SPECIAL NOTE: In his Introduction (pp.7-11) to Wiersbe's commentary, Ken Baugh raises the concept of defining moments in the lives of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, and how each individual's reaction established a unique relationship to God. Have you in your life experienced a similar defining moment? Did you recognize it at that time? How has it affected your life? As always, coffee and donuts are available. Need a book? Contact Alan Clark at (703) 627-4725 or alan.clark1@verizon.net. You may also attend via ZOOM. https://iachurch.us7.listmanage.com/track/click?u=7c748aaa4c951466365758f50&id=ca e94f72bc&e=69440a42ed

<u>Saturday Men's Breakfast:</u> The men will meet next time for the monthly breakfast at 8:00 AM Saturday, January 18 at Immanuel. Mark this on your calendar. Please come and feel free to invite others to share this time together for food and fellowship.

Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.