

The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church Prince William County

Pastor's Corner

"Fake News or Life-Changing Truth"

"...these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them."

(Luke 24:11)

According to Luke, this was the eleven apostles' first response to the story of Jesus' resurrection. Fake news; don't believe it. An idle tale; disregard it. Stay locked away in your grief and fear, your disappointment and confusion, your hiddenness and shame. Jesus was not who he said he was.

Or was he?

"Remember how Jesus told you," say the angels to the women, "that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they do remember (Luke 24:6-8)! And, standing before the empty tomb on that third day, they realize that the words Jesus spoke to them have come true, which means that all his words are true – which means that *he is who says he is*.

The women believe, and step into the dawn of a new life. The apostles do not believe, and remain in the shadow of death. Peter, however, runs to investigate the claim, and is confronted by evidence of the truth. He leaves the empty tomb marveling – an amazement that has not yet settled into belief. And yet, Peter is the first of the apostles to encounter the risen Jesus later that same day

(Luke 24:33-34)...perhaps in response to his first faltering steps toward belief.

I encourage you to join the women in remembering Jesus' words, and to join Peter in being confronted by the truth. You can do this by participating in the services of Maundy Thursday (7pm), Stations of the Cross (Friday, noon), Good Friday (7pm), Holy Saturday (9am), and the Rite of Reconciliation (Saturday 9:15amnoon). Entering with Jesus into his suffering, crucifixion, and death are essential to understanding the reality of his resurrection.

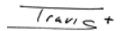
And Jesus' resurrection is indeed real.

We will celebrate this reality on Sunday with our outdoor Easter Sunrise Service at 7am and our Easter Celebration Service at 10:30am (followed by an Easter egg hunt). Both services are opportunities for encountering the risen Jesus among a people who joyfully believe that *he is who he says he is* – the Risen Son of God who brings us into a new life of forgiveness, freedom, and recreation.

Christ is risen, Christ is risen! Tell it with a joyful voice. Christ has burst the three days' prison; Let the whole wide earth rejoice. Death is conquered, we are free; Christ has won the victory.

This is not fake news. It is Truth. How will you respond?

Your Pastor in Christ,



INFORMATION April 20, 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

Morning Prayer is offered at Immanuel Tuesday - Friday, in the Nave from 8:30am - 9:30am.

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

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

IMPORTANT DATES

April 19, 2025	Holy Saturday & Reconc	ciliation 9am Nave
April 20, 2025	Easter Sunrise Service	7am Outside
-	Easter Morning Service	10:30am Nave
	Easter Egg Hunt followin	ig service
April 22, 2025	Prayer for Prodigals	7-8:30pm Nave
May 2-4, 2025	Women's Retreat	
May 5, 2025	Praise and Prayer	7-8pm Nave
May 18, 2025	Newcomers' Lunch	12:15-1:15pm Nave

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newcomers Information Luncheon (May 18): Are you new to Immanuel? Are you interested in becoming a member of Immanuel? Do you want to know more about Immanuel mission and programs? Do you want to volunteer and not sure how or what the options are? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, join us May 18 after the 10:30 service (about 12:15) for a light lunch and one-hour information session. Nursery, childcare, and youth activities will be provided. To help with planning food and childcare, let us know you can come. You can sign up on the board outside the nave, or RSVP to office@iachurch.org or call the church at (703) 340-3120. If you have any questions, contact Becky Ragon, beckyragon25@gmail.com or Janice Flynn, grammy41966@icloud.com. We encourage all to stay and learn more about Immanuel!

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 April Food Cupboard Ministry Food of the Month is cooking oil in 16 oz. to 48 oz. plastic bottles. If you'd like to donate different food, all other items on the ACTS Urgently Needed Items list are always welcome. Neighbors in need come to ACTS once per month to receive donated food. ACTS also delivers food boxes to homebound seniors. Thank you, Immanuel, for caring for our neighbors in need!

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Immanuel Kids: Spring is the season for new beginnings! Whether you're cleaning out parts of your home or watching the flowers bloom in your garden, it's a time for new life and growth. Like a good gardener, Jesus wanted to help cultivate the seeds of faith in his friends so they could all grow closer to God. In this 4-week series, kids will learn all about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as he sowed the seeds of new life in the world. Kids will discover that God sent Jesus to save us, Jesus understands when we're hurting, makes all things new, and connects us to God.

Youth Group: Youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to join youth group Sundays after the service from 12:15 -1:30 p.m. Lunch is provided. Bring a friend and come ready for games, great conversations, and growing closer to God. Contact Melissa Byers mbyers@iachurch.org to join our newsletter for important dates for our youth. We will NOT have youth group on April 20th due to Easter.

<u>Sunday Night Men's Bible Study:</u> On April 20, the group will NOT meet in observance of Easter.

Monday Men's Dinner: All men, that is IAC members and guests are invited to join us for some fellowship and conversation at our weekly Monday Men's Dinner this time at Armetta's located at 5524 Staple Mill Plaza, Dale City, this coming Monday, April 21, at 5:00 pm. New attendees are always welcome so come join us and bring someone with you.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: We will begin meeting again on Monday, April 28 to study the I AM statements of Jesus in the gospel of John. The study guide is titled I Am (The Son Reveals the Father) by Sarah Howley and can be purchased on Amazon. 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. We welcome you!

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: Join us Tuesdays at 10:00 AM in Room 1 as we continue the study, The Gospel of John: Savoring the Peace of Jesus in a Chaotic World. You can also join us via Zoom, click here. Meeting ID: 859 5395 5885 Passcode: 642280 Questions? Call or text Barbara Finney at 703-405-2651

<u>Tuesday Ladies Dinner:</u> The next dinner will be at Armetta's located at 4585 Daisy Reid Ave, Woodbridge, on May 19, at 5:00 pm. We get together to enjoy a meal monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Please RSVP to <u>teharpster@comcast.net</u>.

Women's Book Club: The next Women's Book Club will be held on Tuesday May 13 at 7 PM. Our book this month is Tattoos of the Heart, The Power of Boundless Compassion by Gregory Boyle. We will be meeting at the home of Monika Dew at 14315 Raddock Ct., Woodbridge, VA. 22193. Let Monika know if you are not able to attend at 202-257-2348 or dewgreen@hotmail.com. Or you may call Cathleen Giannini with any questions at 703-851-0908. This will be our last book club until we meet in August to set up or reading schedule for next year.

Saturday Morning Men's Discussion Group: The IAC men will NOT meet this week due to the Men's breakfast. We will continue our study of Genesis using Wiersbe's Commentary BE AUTHENTIC on April 26, at 8:00am in Classroom 1. In preparation read Genesis 46 and 48 in your bibles; in the Commentary read chapter ten-Grandfather Knows Best (pp.151-160) and ponder the questions on pages 161 and 162. As always, coffee and donuts are available. Need a book? Contact Alan Clark at (703)627-4725 or alan.clark1@verizon.net. Join us in person or join via ZOOM. https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82791399156 Meeting ID:827 91399156.

<u>Saturday Men's Breakfast:</u> The men will meet next time for the monthly breakfast at 8:00 AM Saturday, April 19, at Immanuel. Mark this on your calendar. Please come and feel free to invite others to share this time together for food and fellowship. The sign-up poster is in the Narthex before you enter the Nave.

<u>Vacation Bible School 2025:</u> Registration is open for Live It Out VBS! Vacation Bible School. VBS will be July 28-August 1 from 9am-12pm with family lunch after. Register at https://www.immanuelanglicanchurch.org/vbs. We need YOUR help to make this year's Vacation Bible School amazing! We are in need of volunteers to help with Music/Dance, Games, Small Groups and much more! If you are interested in Volunteering, please contact Melissa Byers at: mbyers@iachurch.org.

Open House for Dave and Mary Ellen Bena: You are invited to the Finney's home at 12629 Stone Lined Circle on May 4, from 5-8 pm to visit with the Benas. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Barbara at blynn56@verizon.net or 703-405-2651.

County Community Activities

Woodbridge Community Choir: will be presenting the Spring 2025 "Journeys in Music" concerts Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 8:00pm and Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 3:00pm both in the Dr. A. J. Ferlazzo Auditorium 15941 Donald Curtis Dr. Woodbridge, VA!

Not receiving The Weekly? You can sign up on the IAC website by going to here. Scroll to the bottom of the page and complete the subscribe form. If you need help, contact the Parish Administrator at office@iachurch.org.

Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.

Building Usage

If you or your group would like to use a room at the church, please contact the office at office@iachurch.org or harpster@iachurch.org to schedule the date, time and room. Unscheduled meetings cannot always be accommodated.