



The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

December 1, 2024

Pastor's Corner "The Time of Waiting"

What are you waiting for?

This is the question I want you to consider as we enter into Advent this upcoming Sunday. What is the unanswered yearning pulling at your heart? How would *you* complete this sentence: I am waiting for...

...healing. ...relationship. ...peace. ...rest. ...comfort. ...justice.
...an answer. ...?

We're all waiting for some sort of an intervention, for something at last to come into our empty, hurting, entrapped places and fill, heal, and free us and those we love. It won't surprise you, of course, to hear me say that we're actually waiting for Jesus. But even as Christians who know Jesus is present with us right now, we still experience the yearning for more. What are we waiting for?

Advent acknowledges this experience of waiting. Madeleine L'Engle writes that these December days are "*not* waiting, as we so often are taught as children, for Christmas, for the baby Jesus to be born in a stable in Bethlehem. We're waiting for something that has not happened yet, that has never happened before,

something totally new. We know only what the end of this waiting has been called through the centuries: The Second Coming.”

This Saturday, November 30, we’ll talk more about Advent as we gather at the church from 10am-11am to make Advent wreaths. The wreaths can then become part of your waiting as you light them each week in Advent, praying through the simple liturgy we’ll provide both in person and via email. We’ll also see how the Scriptures answer the question, “What are you waiting for?” each Sunday in Advent. (You’ll notice several changes to our worship services that highlight this anticipation.) And each of the Wednesdays in Advent at 7pm you’re invited to join us for Compline at the church, expressing our anticipation through liturgy, chant, and contemplation.

I look forward to entering into Advent with you, waiting together with confidence for the “once and future coming of Jesus Christ” (Fleming Rutledge).

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

INFORMATION

December 1, 2024

Worship

Please join us each Sunday at 8:00am or 10:30am located at 7075 Hoadly Road, Manassas, VA, or via [livestream](#).

Morning Prayer is offered via [Zoom](#) every Thursday at 8am.

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

Visit iachurch.org/worship for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 28, 29	Office closed
November 30	Make your own Advent wreath
December 1	Advent I, Blessing of Crèches
December 4	Sung Compline
Dec. 15, 4:30pm	Christmas Tree & Nativity Lighting

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Advent: Prepare for the Advent season by making your own Advent wreath! Join us Saturday, November 30 from 10am-11am for a special event where we'll come together to create beautiful advent wreaths for our homes and hearts. This is for all ages, invite a friend to come along! Supplies for 1 wreath per family are provided. Sign up here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4FAEA72CA2FA7-52604979-welcome> or contact Melissa Byers at mbyers@iachurch.org for more information.

Crèches Everywhere! Unpack your family's treasured manger scenes and bring them to church for display on Saturday, November 30, 2024, between 9-11am or before either service on Sunday, December 1, 2024. We will furnish cards for you to share the story of your crèches and all will be blessed during the service. Plan on setting up early and staying a bit later so people can enjoy them!

Christmas Gift Card Drive for Coles Elementary: We are excited to announce a gift card collection to support our local elementary school- Coles Elementary! Your generous contributions will help provide Christmas gifts for families in need. Gift cards can be placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning or dropped off at the church office by Sunday, December 8th. Contact Melissa Byers mbyers@iachurch.org for more information.

Angel Tree Tag Sundays! Please visit our Angel Tree over the next three Sundays to select a tag to help sponsor a family at Beville Middle School. Immanuel will help bless 10 local families to have a Christmas for their children. Select a tag as a family or consider having your Bible Study or small group sponsor a tag for some of the larger wish-list items. Please be sure to indicate your sign up on the clipboard that will be next to the Angel Tree so that we can account for all tags.

All gift items should include a gift receipt and will need to be returned--*wrapped and with their tags*--by Sunday, December 8.

Men's Monday Dinner: All men, that is IAC members and guests are invited to join us for our weekly Men's Monday Dinner this time at *Red Robin*, located at 14090 Worth Ave Dr, Woodbridge, VA, this coming Monday, December 2 at 5:00 pm. Join us and enjoy a tasty gourmet burger or other delicious selection from their menu and most importantly some fabulous fellowship. Give us a try, if you have never joined us before, come one time and see.

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.

Ladies Tuesday Dinner: The next dinner will be at Olive Garden BBQ, 14405 Gideon Dr, Woodbridge, VA 22192 on December 17 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.

Men's Saturday Breakfast: The men will meet next time for the monthly breakfast at 8:00 AM Saturday, December 21 at Immanuel. Mark this on your calendar and just let Alan Clark or Mike Harpster know you are coming, so they can obtain adequate provisions. Please come and feel free to invite others to share this time together for food and fellowship.

Immanuel Youth Group: 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.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Woodbridge Community Choir: Come to one of the free Christmas concerts presented by the Woodbridge Community Choir entitled “Sounds of Christmas”. Enjoy a delightful blend of sacred and secular Christmas music to get you into the Christmas spirit. Most of the members of the Immanuel choir are also members of the larger WCC including Meredyth and Irwin. There will be three performances including Saturday, December 7 at 8:00 PM, Sunday December 8 at 3:00 PM, both of which are at the Dr. A. J. Ferlazzo building and then Sunday, December 15 at 2:30 PM in the atrium of the National Museum of the Marine Corps. See website for more details:

<https://www.woodbridgecommunitychoir.org/>

Sunday Nite Men’s Bible Study: Join us on Sundays at 7:00pm. in classroom 4 for a look at Revelation. Each session will include opening prayer, an audio followed by discussion, and we'll wrap up by 8:30 pm with a closing prayer. No homework and just listen if you like.

Immanuel Kids: At Christmas, gifts are all around us, but we know the holiday isn't about the toys—it's about the joy of Jesus' birth. We might experience joy from opening up gifts, but God gives us even greater joy through Jesus. In this 4-week series, kids will learn all about the joy Jesus brought into the world. They'll learn **Jesus is the savior God promised, how God sent Jesus at the perfect time, that Jesus brings joy to the world, and what it means to say Jesus is God's greatest gift.**

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: On Monday, December 2, we will continue our study of Romans using Warren Wiersbe’s *How to be Right with God, Yourself, and Others*, reading and discussing Chapter 6. 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 *James: Mercy Triumphs*. 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=U21UK1MyYWozRks1TXlBR2dwbWNyZz09>

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.

Thursday Evening Choir Rehearsal: For those that enjoy singing praises to God meet with the Choir 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. All ages are welcome, typically High School and above, with an innate ability to match pitches and blend with others in your section. The Choir is a family within the Immanuel family, and we'd love to welcome you!

Saturday Morning Men's Discussion Group: The next **SMMDG** will be at 08AM on 12/7/24 in classroom #1. In preparation, read Genesis 23 and 25:1-11 in your bible, and in Wiersbe's Commentary "Be Obedient" read Chapter Twelve, "A Time to Die" (pp.155-165) and ponder the profound and penetrating questions on pages 166 and 167. All men are invited; bring a friend. Coffee and donuts as always. Need a copy of the Commentary? Contact Alan Clark at (703) 627-4725 or alan.clark1@verison.net. You can also attend via ZOOM. <https://iachurch.us7.list->

manage.com/track/click?u=7c748aaa4c951466365758f50&id=cae94f72bc&e=69440a42ed

Mission and Outreach Food Cupboard: Immanuel, your generous support for our food cupboard ministry is a blessing to our neighbors who are hungry. A Mission and Outreach Team member delivered **353 pounds of food** to ACTS Hunger Prevention Center this week, our biggest delivery yet! **The December Food of the Month is canned fruit or fruit cocktail.**

Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.