



The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

January 5, 2025

Pastor's Corner

"The Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ"

As these Twelve Days of Christmas continue, I appreciate the following reflection from the poet Lucy Shaw, which also provides a very different perspective for New Year's Day:

"In the story of the life of Jesus, the first day of January is marked as the feast of his circumcision. All good Jewish boys were ritually circumcised in the first ten days of their lives. So Joseph and Mary carried the eight-day-old baby to the temple and made the required offerings, 'according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' ... As far as we know there were only three witnesses: the high priest, a very old man named Simeon, and an equally old woman named Anna. Simeon believed that he would not die until he had seen the promised Messiah, and when the baby was put in his arms, he said words which for centuries have been part of evening prayer:

*'Lord, now let your servant depart in peace
as you have promised,
For with my own eyes I have seen the Saviour
which you prepared in the sight of all people
To be a light to give light to the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of your people, Israel.'*

“An old man and an old woman were the first to acknowledge that this baby was the one they had spent their lives hoping for, the Saviour that all Jews hoped for....

*“Like every newborn, he has come from very far.
His eyes are blinded by the brilliance of the star.
So glorious is he, he goes to this immoderate length
To show his love for us, discarding power and strength.
Girded for war, humility his mighty dress,
He moves into the battle wholly weaponless.*

“We don't know much about Jesus' early life. It's likely his father taught him carpentry, and this would have developed his muscles and helped to make him a strong man. His mother must have marvelled at him, wondered about the angel who came to her to announce his birth, and the birth itself, with the shepherds coming to bring their humble gifts, and the kings their magnificent ones.”

This upcoming second Sunday and twelfth day of Christmas, let's join shepherds and kings and bring the gifts of our lives, and acknowledge with Simeon and Anna that this same Jesus is the one we also have spent our lives hoping for.

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

INFORMATION

January 5, 2025

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.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85934655171>

Meeting ID: 859 3465 5171

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

Visit iachurch.org/worship for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

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| Jan 5, 2025 | Be sure to pick up your blessed chalk for chalking a blessing on your door for 2025 |
| Jan. 9, 2025 | Vestry nomination form returned to office. (Form on website) Application |
| Jan. 26, 2025 | Annual Meeting |

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meals to Hilda Barg: Immanuel Anglican Church will be providing meals to the Hilda Barg Center on January 10 and 11. Please sign up to prepare and deliver one or more of the items on the menu by clicking here: [SIGN UP](#). Instructions for delivery and the address on the sign up page. Your generous provision of food provides for those less fortunate and shines the light of hope into those lives. You bless the Immanuel family and our community.

Catherine Annand's Uganda Trip: 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 [Catherine Annand - Donate to Anglican Missions Work](#) 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.

Anglicans for Life: will be hosting An Anglican Prayer and Worship Service at The Falls Church Anglican Church (6565 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA. 22042) on FRIDAY, JANUARY 24th, 2025 from 9:30 to 10:45. Please consider joining us during this special event. IF YOU LIKE, you can join us at the March for Life in Washington, DC following the service. A bus ticket will be required if you want that convenience. The Bus ticket can be procured at the Anglicans for Life Web Site (<https://anglicansforlife.org>). Please contact Cathleen Giannini at cragchat1@gmail.com or 703-851-0908 if you have any questions.

Mission and Outreach Food Cupboard:

The food cupboard ministry will make its first delivery of the year on January 6th. Our food of the month for January is a food that is given to every customer who comes to the ACTS food pantry every time they visit. **The Food of the Month for January is tomato sauce in 15-ounce cans.**

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 5. 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

Sunday Nite Men's Bible Study: The Sunday men's Bible study will reconvene January 5 at 7pm, continuing with Revelation."

Monday Men's Dinner: All men, that is IAC members and guests are cordially invited to join us for some fantastic fellowship and cheeky conversation at our weekly Monday Men's Dinner this time at *El Paso*, located at 3031 Golansky Blvd, Woodbridge, VA, this coming Monday, January 6 at 5:00 pm. The food is authentic Mexican, and the atmosphere is inviting. New attendees are always welcome so come join us as we kick off the New Year in style.

Monday Night Women's Bible Study: We will meet on Monday, January 6, 2025 when we will discuss Chapter 6 of Warren Wiersbe's *How to be Right with God, Yourself, and Others*. 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.

Tuesday Ladies Dinner: 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.

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 men of IAC will meet at 8AM on 1/10/25 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 27 & 28 in your bibles; Chapter Two - A MASTERPIECE IN PIECES (pp.33-43) in the Commentary, and ponder the questions on pages 44 & 45. **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? Contact Alan Clark at (703) 627-4725 or alan.clark1@verizon.net. You may also attend via ZOOM. <https://iachurch.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7c748aaa4c951466365758f50&id=cae94f72bc&e=69440a42ed>

Saturday Men's Breakfast: 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.

Women's Book Club: The next Women's book club will be on January 14th at 7 PM at the home of Amy Greenslit. (15318 Maribelle Place, Woodbridge). We are reading the book, Horse, by Geraldine Brooks. Please consider joining us this New Year. Call Cathleen Giannini at 703-851-0908 or email at cragchat1@gmail.com with any questions.

Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.