

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

5401 White Hall Road • Cambridge, Maryland 21613 • 410-228-4640



IMMANUEL IMAGES

August 2011

August Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings - The heart of our life together

8:45 Nursery Care begins (5 & under)

9:00 Sunday School for all ages

10:00 Worship for all ages, followed by refreshments

10:15 Children's Program (2nd and 4th Sundays)

*Our Vision for
Immanuel United
Church of Christ:*

*An open-hearted
church,
empowering
people to serve
God and the
community.*

*(Adopted by the
Church Council,
June 1, 2011)*

August 7 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Children who participated in the previous week's Vacation Bible School will share songs and learnings. Scripture readings will include Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Matthew 14:22-33. The Rev. ASG preaching.

August 14 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We celebrate Holy Communion and consider Genesis 45:1-15 and Matthew 15:10-28. The Rev. ASG preaching. New Members Orientation at 8:45 am.

August 21 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture readings include Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Matthew 16:13-20. The Rev. ASG preaching. New Members Orientation at 8:45 am.

August 28 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Rev. Glen Rodgers will be our guest preacher, while Pastor Anne is on vacation (August 22-September 5).

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Fun and New Friends at Vacation Bible School!



From the Interim Pastor

The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis

I write to you during the middle of Vacation Bible School here at Immanuel United Church of Christ. Our first two evenings have been incredible outpourings of energy and love from a wide variety of volunteers. Under the over-all direction of Tammy Luthy and Suzie Creighton, adults and teenagers have been cooking dinners, showing up in skirts in panda suits, leading us in singing, giving us a hands-on experience of different Bible stories, corralling our preschoolers, guiding wild outdoor games, directing crafts projects, all around the lively theme of "PandaMania: God is Wild About You!" A number of new families have brought their children to participate, and we are getting to know them as we eat suppers together. We have been handing out a new "Family Ministries at Immanuel" brochure has been prepared by our Outreach chair, Connie Barnett, and me, describing the opportunities for spiritual growth, service and fellowship here at our church.

Our current Mission Statement describes how we "*open our doors to all*" as a congregation. Vacation Bible School is an incredible outreach ministry of this church, and is often the entry point for families with children who are not currently connected with a local congregation. The Mission Statement also describes us as seeking "*to offer a contagious Christianity that transforms both our members and the wider community.*" It has been said that the Christian faith is much better "caught" than "taught," and I would certainly agree. We "catch" the faith, and grow as Christians, by being around other followers of Jesus. All ages can learn from each other in this spiritual formation process, and we need more opportunities beyond Sunday worship and Sunday School to do that.

We are planning to provide additional all-church family gatherings beginning this Fall, and invite your ideas and participation. Plans are developing for a "**2nd Wednesday**" **evening supper, program and informal worship time**, intended for all ages. A hot meal would be prepared and served, so busy families do not have to cook, followed by interactive learning activities for all ages. We would close the evening with a time of singing, shared prayer and story-message, and be ready to head home by 7:30 pm. We would provide this program on a trial basis for four months, through December. Are you interested in helping with this? Do you have ideas for our program time together? Speak with Connie Barnett or me.

Meanwhile, my gratefulness goes to the whole crew of helpers and VBS children participating, for making VBS such an engaging and delightful week here at Immanuel. Be sure to join us Sunday, August 7, during worship when our children will give you a taste of some of their time together!

In ministry with you,
Anne

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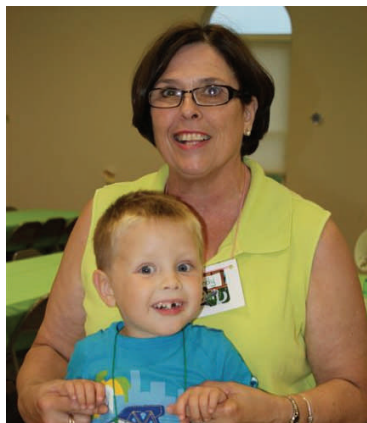
The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis, Interim Pastor
Janice Haller, Church Office Secretary
J. Curtis White, Choir Director/Organist
Lynne Breil, Pianist
Lisa Dixon, Custodian

“PANDAMANIA” DOWN AT CHURCH!

As this newsletter goes to print, we have completed Evening #2 of our Vacation Bible School week. So far, over 50 children, along with their adult and teenage helpers have been having a blast! Funny skits, interactive Bible study, fun crafts, wild games and lively singing are helping us experience that God IS wild about each of us!



Here are a few photos, thanks to Lynn Malkus-Lyons, of the last two evenings. More to come in the September newsletter!



BE SURE TO JOIN US SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, WHEN OUR CHILDREN WILL SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH US IN SUNDAY WORSHIP!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

(A monthly column about supporting Immanuel's ministries)

At their last meeting, our Deacons were talking about how meaningful it has been for them to make the decision to be consistent in their financial support of Immanuel Church. "I just felt more interested in what was going on here, when I started giving on a regular basis," commented one Deacon. "It's been a way for me to express to God how grateful I am," one of them added. Another Deacon and long-time member, Carole Segar, agreed to share her perspective with you for this month's newsletter:

CONSISTENT GIVING

"I can't afford to give much, so my giving doesn't matter, right?"

"WRONG! Do you remember the Bible story about the Widow's mite? The widow had very little, but she gave 2 mites to the Church, which was all she could afford. The key to contributing to your Church is to give consistently and with a glad heart.

Consistent giving is essential because expenses are on-going. If you can only afford \$5.00 a week and give it consistently, you help buy Sunday school supplies, or candles for the altar, or bulletins for Sunday worship. Search your heart, pray, and decide if you can consistently support your Church. Those who can give more should do so, those who can only give small amounts should consider their contribution just as valuable. No amount is too small to make a difference in the life of your Church. Bless you." Deacon, Carole Segar

RECENT ACTION BY THE CHURCH COUNCIL ABOUT THE BUS

By an unanimous vote at the July 6 Church Council meeting, the church bus is going to be sold. Several Church Council members were approached by a local buyer, who offered to purchase the bus at Blue Book price, "as is and where it is." The bus needed six new tires before it could be used for longer distances again. Also the bus has not been used much for recent church activities, and maintenance and insurance costs continue to climb, so the Church Council decided this was a good time to sell.

The Council would like to acknowledge all those who helped raise money for the original purchase of the bus in 1999. We give thanks for all the fellowship trips and various benevolent activities that were enabled by members' generosity.

Our Mission as a Church

*Immanuel United Church of Christ seeks to offer a contagious Christianity that transforms both our members and the wider community. Nourished by heart-felt worship for all ages, relevant teaching and fervent prayer, we open our doors to all and reach out to those in need.
(Adopted by the Church Council, June 1, 2011)*

NOMINATIONS FOR IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to prayerfully consider the following list of qualities and attributes sought in nominations to serve on the upcoming Immanuel UCC's Search Committee. Submit your own, or someone else's name and include a few written sentences about how this person would be an asset to the committee. (Please make sure your nominee would be willing to serve, if elected.) These can be e-mailed, delivered or mailed to the Church Office, and needs to be received no later than August 14. **From these written nominations, the Church Council and Spiritual Council will chose a committee of 5-9 people.** Hopefully, the full slate will be ready to present for a congregational vote in September.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING IN NOMINATING SOMEONE FOR THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE:

Individuals should have:

- a passionate commitment to Christ's church;
- a positive attitude (no grudges);
- a capacity to approach the task with openness rather than a pre-determined agenda;
- a sense of integrity and respect for others;
- an ability to be absolutely confidential;
- a capacity to listen, to participate in a group, and to come to consensus.

In addition, an individual under consideration for the Search Committee should be:

- an active member and supporter of Immanuel United Church of Christ as demonstrated by worship attendance, financial support, and participation;
- trusted and respected by the congregation;
- willing and able to make this responsibility a high priority.

YOU CAN MAKE A NOMINATION BELOW AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE, OR SEND IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE. PLEASE INCLUDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WHY THIS PERSON IS BEING NOMINATED.

I would like to nominate _____ to be Considered for the Pastoral Search Committee. This person would be a Helpful addition to the Pastoral Search Committee because:

Submitted by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP OTHERS

From Robin Moore, Chair, Mission Committee

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE



Our Mission Board has been busy with the start up of school gathering supplies for the following elementary schools: Choptank, Hurlock, South Dorchester, Maple, Warwick, Vienna and Sandy Hill. We will provide, among other items, notebooks, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, rulers and pencil cases. These supplies provide a much needed resource for the children attending these schools. The cost of providing these items to our schools is approximately \$700.00

If you would like to help provide some of these items, please bring your purchases to the church anytime between 9am and 1pm Monday through Friday or bring with you on Sunday when you attend worship. **Supplies needed by August 14.** You may, of course, make a monetary contribution. Your gifts to Special Benevolence help many! Thank You.

STOCKING OUR FOOD SHELF

Immanuel UCC has seen a large increase in the number of people coming to us for help paying rent, electric, or other utilities. Certainly a discouraging sign in these troubling times. Many people come also looking for food. While we do not have a pantry, your generosity in bringing canned goods and other non-perishables to place in our basket, has allowed us to offer something to these people also.



Our Mission Board is working on plans for a Mission Breakfast in November at which time we will raise funds for Special Benevolence. In the meantime, gifts to that fund are always appreciated. Bless you for your thoughtfulness!

HELPING OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN TIMES OF NEED

We continue to welcome financial help for our two member families experiencing medical hardships. **Andrew Albert**, son of Philip and Barbara Albert, continues to struggle with kidney complications. **Jackson Bradley**, son of Jennifer Burton and step-son of Brian Burton, is in treatment for a brain tumor. Both of these families do a lot of traveling to doctor's appointments in Baltimore, as well as cope with mounting medical bills. You can contribute to the funds for either of these boys through the church; simply send your offering to the church office marked "Andrew's Fund" or "Jackson's Fund."

Come to the **Car and Bike Show, Saturday, August 20** at Sailwinds Park from 9 am to 2 pm, which will be a benefit for Jackson. Registration is \$10.00 and there will be trophies for the top 40, best of show, and farthest distance traveled, in addition to lots of food and vendors. For more information contact Dennis Katulis at 443-521-3639.

MORE WAYS TO BE OF SERVICE



NEW TUTORING PROGRAM....You Can Make a Difference!

Our church has been invited to become involved in a new tutoring program in our local elementary schools. Steve Rideout, who attends Christ Episcopal Church in Cambridge, started a similar program in Alexandria, VA, where he served as a juvenile court judge. He found that if young people got reading support in their early years, they were much less likely to end up in trouble. Marlene Waldis and Pastor Anne recently met with Steve and learned more about the program. They are both interested in becoming tutors. Marlene asks you to consider the following, then call her if you are interested at 443-521-5257.

“Can you spare two 30-minute sessions per week to improve a child’s reading skills by working one-on-one with a student in Kindergarten, First Grade or Second Grade?”

Steve Rideout, the head of the Dorchester Tutoring Consortium, explained that’s your job when you volunteer to participate in the tutoring program.

You don’t need any special teaching skills. There will be a short training session at the county elementary school at which you choose to participate.

As a retired educator, I have seen the value of having someone help students in need of assistance. Just by talking with them you show them that someone cares about them. You can become such an important role model for that student.

As Pastor Anne explained to us in her sermon on July 24, it can be the little hidden things that grow into something wonderful. Hopefully, you will see your student make progress, but you will feel good knowing you have instilled in them an enthusiasm for books and learning.

Hope you will consider becoming a tutor and ask for an application.”

*Thanks,
Marlene Waldis*

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE JULY BBQ

What delicious BBQ sandwiches we all enjoyed following worship early in July. Many thanks go to Vinson Spies and friends for providing the cooker and the man-power to prepare the beef for our BBQ fundraiser. Many others, including the Hospitality Committee, set up tables, sliced meat and provided a warm welcome to worshippers and community members who stopped by for a sandwich. \$760 was raised from this event for our General Fund. Thank-you to all who helped make this a great event!

HELP ON HABITAT BUILD

Thanks go to Robin Moore, Terry Melius, Lynne Browne, Kathy Kelly, Charlotte Hanson, Ruth Bradley, Anne Swallow Gillis, Kim and Dave Leonard, Haylee Tyler and Beau McSorley who spent a hot, sweaty morning working on July 9 on one of the Cambridge Habitat homes recently, along with the future homeowner, Chanice Rochester. They hauled construction trash to the dumpster, sorted left-over materials, painted, installed interior shelves and kitchen hardware, and dug weeds. Thanks go to Doris Rae and Helen Krom who sent them off with watermelon, granola bars and bottles of cold water.

Interested in helping with another build? The foundation has just been laid on a Habitat home on High Street. On **Saturday, August 13 from 9:00 am to noon**, join us at 439 High Street. Sign-up on the list at church, in the Narthex. We can bring 10 people, and also need water snack donations. No special skills needed! Contact the church office for more information.

Habitat Choptank, since its inception in 1992, has empowered 49 working families in Dorchester and Talbot Counties to become homeowners. Each Habitat home is a result of a unique partnership among a qualified low-income family, dedicated volunteers, and inspired donors. Learn more about Habitat at www.HabitatChoptank.org.



NEXT NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SERIES

Perhaps you have been worshipping with us for awhile, but have not taken the step of formally joining Immanuel. While our ministries and programs are open to anyone, whoever they are and wherever they are on their faith journey, membership allows for a deeper commitment to working with God through this particular faith community. Members agree to support fellow members with their regular presence in worship, sharing of their talents and their finances in support of the church's ministries, and to pray for one another. Together, we grow as Jesus' disciples, here in this specific part of the Body of Christ that is Immanuel United Church of Christ.

Or, maybe you are new to Immanuel, and would like to learn more about the uniqueness of this congregation's faith perspective, our programs and the wider work of our denomination, the United Church of Christ. Perhaps you are wondering if this might be the faith community that will help you become closer to God and to guide you in serving God's world.

Interested in learning more? Join us for this next **New Member Orientation Series, Sunday mornings, August 14 and 21**. Pastor Anne and several Church Council members will be there to meet before worship, from 8:45-9:45 am, in the Sofa Room in the Fellowship Hall wing of our building.

CONFIRMATION CLASS STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

Our Sunday school programs for children and middle school youth will continue through the summer again this year. We have classes for nursery age, taught by Tammy Luthy, a class for children ages 6-8 taught by Robin Moore, one for those 9-11 taught by Donna Schnoor and a middle school youth ages 12-14 class taught by Patti Cannon. Bring your family to Sunday School, and come down to the adult Lectionary Bible Study in the Sofa Room!

Pastor Anne is planning to lead a **Confirmation Class** for young people in 7th and 8th grade, starting this Fall. The group would meet once a week with Pastor Anne and other adult mentors, from September through May (excepting school holidays) and the young people would be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 27. Do you know of a young person entering 7th or 8th grade this Fall who may be interested? Please let her know so we can make plans.

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Members celebrating August Birthdays

Amanda Schnoor	8/3
Sidney Keyes	8/3
John Schnoor	8/4
John Moore	8/6
Jay Book	8/6
Connie Barnett	8/7
Melissa Elzey	8/8
Nancy Sims	8/8
Sara Creighton	8/9
Cullen Hill	8/11
John C. Adkins	8/12
Paige Cox	8/12
Joyce Wise	8/12
Deana Kozak	8/13
John Breil	8/13
Evan David Kozak	8/14
Mark Malkus	8/17
Beverly Shelly	8/21
Debbie Robbins	8/21
Scott Dodson	8/22
Clara Schnoor	8/24
Talen Middleton	8/27
Jaden Windsor Kozak	8/29

August Anniversaries

Brenda & Bill Pender	8/2
Lynn & Lee Lyons	8/19
Courtney & Harold Travers	8/19
Amy & Scott Dodson	8/22
Cindy & Jerry Jones	8/27



Your Staff

The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis
Janice Haller
J. Curtis White
Lynne Breil
Lisa Dixon
Stephanie Dixon

Interim Pastor
Church Secretary
Choir Director/Organist
Pianist
Custodian
Nursery Care Provider

Your Council

Philip Jackson, President of Congregation
Scott Dodson - Vice President/Deacon
Debi Book Elder
Connie Barnett Deacon
Danny Luthy Deacon

Jock Luthy Deacon
Dennis Katulis Elder
John Moore Deacon
C. R. Newman Deacon
Carole Segar Deacon

Church Contact Information

Office Hours - Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone
FAX:
Email:
Web:

410-228-2148
410-221-6419
immanuelucc@bcctv.net
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IMMANUEL PRAYER LIST: *You are invited to remember these people in prayer.*

Members of Immanuel:

Grace Louise ADKINS, at Mallard Bay
Andrew ALBERT, coping with kidney challenges, son of Philip & Barbara Albert
Jackson BRADLEY, receiving chemo for a brain tumor, son of Brian & Jennifer Burton
Dorothy BURTON at home
Marilyn CUSICK, facing health challenges at home
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Chris FOXWELL, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
Bill GIESE, recovering from surgery (son-in-law of Helen Malkus)
Frank HOGE, health issues
Virginia LYONS, at Chesapeake Woods
The SHELLY FAMILY in the death of Marion Ricko on July 17 in Jacksonville, FL (sister of Isabelle Shelly and Ray, Sam & Stuart's aunt)



Friends of Immanuel Church:

Betty ABBOTT, Pat Creighton's step-mother, at Chesapeake Woods
Kim BROHAWN, granddaughter of Marilyn Cusick, facing MS
Ken BURGWIN, beginning cancer treatment, friend of Kim & Dave Leonard and Don & Doris Rae
Mike CHEESMAN, health concerns, friend of Beverly Shelly
Caryl Dalton, friend of Joyce Wise and Frank Spillman, health issues under Hospice Care
Debra DUNHAM, friend of Debi Book, treatment for cancer
Jack DUNHAM, friend of Debi Book, treatment for cancer
Kenny ELZEY, Julia Newman's father, at Chesapeake Woods
Savannah MESSICK, grandchild of Jimmy Messick; friend of Robbins and Jones family, being treated for cancer
Dot MORGAN, Lou Jones' aunt, health issues
Rosa PRITCHETT, at Chesapeake Woods, mother of Peggy MacLauchlan
Elwood ROSENCRANCE, Lou Jones' father, health issues

John WHITE, recovering from surgery, father of Curtis White
Chris WISE, nephew of Frank Spillman & Joyce Wise, as he faces the challenges of establishing a new life in North Carolina

Members Serving in Our Armed Forces:

Jimmy WINDSOR, U.S. Army

Friends Serving in Our Armed Forces:

Christopher ANTENEN, Captain, U. S. Air Force flying planes in and out of Iraq, grand-nephew of Jean Haddaway
Michael BRAMBLE, U. S. Army - Germany, nephew of Wallace Dodson And Joyce Malik
Thomas JANUSZ, U. S. Army, friend of Joyce Wise and Frank Spillman wounded in action in Afghanistan in early April

Friends Serving in Our Armed Forces (Continued)

David MUELLER, Captain U. S. Air Force stationed in Afghanistan,
grand-nephew of Jean Haddaway

Blake TURNER, U.S. Marine Corp, nephew of Robin Moore

Cody TURNER, U.S. Marine Corp, nephew of Robin Moore

Kregory TYLER, U.S. Navy, San Diego, serving aboard the aircraft carrier,
USS John C. Stennis, , grandson of Janice Haller & Don & Patsy Creighton

Ruth WILSON, U. S. Navy, friend of Josh Dodson & Nicholas Barnett

We will include service members when we have information on their connection to members of our congregation and branch of service. Our Immanuel Prayer Group will keep a name on the list for a month, and then we will need to hear from family or friends if you want to continue listing the person. Those people in a care center will remain on the list.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE COLD WEATHER SHELTER

With the temperatures in the 90's and the heat index climbing into the 100's for the past several weeks, it is a little hard to think about the cold temperatures that will come with the winter season.

However, there is a benefit scheduled for August 20 from 11:00am to 6:00pm on the corner of Cedar and Race Streets in Cambridge. This fish fry fundraiser is being co-sponsored by Pride of Cambridge Masonic Lodge 50 and Cambridge Masonic Lodge 66.

They also held a fish fry to benefit the Cold Weather Shelter last year and raised more than \$2,000, which funded operational costs at the shelter for approximately two weeks. Come out and support a great cause!

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are in the process of updating our church directory. The new directory will indicate those who are members with an asterisk. Non-members (friends) will continue be listed. There is a DRAFT available for review on the table in the Narthex. Please take a moment to review your listing and make any corrections or additions. We have some names in the database showing as members but we have not be able to confirm that information. As you glance through the directory, please take a moment to see if you can provide information on those listed that do have not an asterisk beside their name. Maybe they were confirmed under a maiden name?

Won't you help a student ?

**TUTORING PROGRAM
BEING OFFERED IN
COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

(See inside for details)



***New Member
Orientation Series***

Sunday Mornings, August 14 and 21, 2011

(See inside for details)