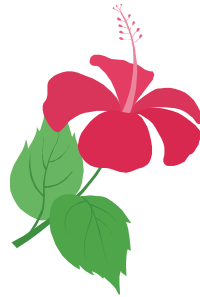


IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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



May 2011



May Worship Schedule

NEW BIBLE STUDY!

The Book of Acts

How did a group of discouraged and fearful disciples turn into bold proclaimers of the Risen Christ?

Wonder how you might get more fired-up in the faith yourself?

Join Pastor Anne on Sundays in May, 9:00-9:40 am, as we consider how the 1st century Christians inspire and challenges us today.

Starts May 1.

Sunday mornings - The heart of our life together

9:00 Sunday School for all ages

10:00 Worship for all ages, nursery care

10:15 Children's Church (2nd Sunday)

11:00 Coffee and Fellowship

(The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis, preaching unless otherwise noted.)

May 1 - Second Sunday of Easter

We celebrate Holy Communion, with our children joining us through the service. Scripture texts include Acts 2:14a, 22-32 and John 20:19-31.

May 8 - Third Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

Our worship service will include the Baptism of Giselle Grace Burton, daughter of Brian and Jennifer Burton. Scripture texts include Acts 2:14a, 36-41 and Luke 24:13-35. Join us for breakfast at 8:00 am!

May 15 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Dr. Nan Duerling be our guest preacher lead worship, while Pastor Anne is on study leave attending a preaching conference in Minneapolis. Scripture texts include Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23 and John 10:1-10.

May 22 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

We will recognize our recent graduates during the service and with a reception immediately following worship. Our Scripture texts include Acts 7:55-60 and John 14:1-14.

May 29 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Our Scripture texts include Acts 17:22-31 and John 14:15-21.

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From the Interim Pastor

The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis

I will be attending the “Festival of Homiletics” in Minneapolis, MN, from May 14 – May 20, for the second of my two weeks of annual study leave. “Homiletics” refers to the art of writing and preaching sermons; some congregations use the word “homily” for the weekly sermon. Through my 32 years of ordained ministry I have found the preaching task to be a joyful duty, and I look forward to another opportunity to grow as a preacher and teacher of the Gospel. Drawing over 2000 pastors from the US and Canada, this conference features prominent Protestant preachers, Biblical scholars and seminary teachers, for a true “feast” of sermons, lectures, workshops and worship. Because I preach each Sunday, I seldom get a chance to listen to colleagues’ sermons, and I relish the chance to soak in the Word for a week! I greatly appreciate this congregation’s financial commitment to the continuing education of its pastors.

I am hoping to learn more about different preaching styles at this conference. The Immanuel Church Christian Education Board has been encouraging me to do more preaching “down front,” out of the pulpit, as my sermons on Christmas Eve and Easter in this form were well-received. You are probably aware of how much I enjoy story-telling with the children, during our Children’s Time. I am working now to craft sermons that engage people of all ages, since we are now welcoming children into the full worship service three Sundays per month. To preach without a manuscript, weaving together both a story narrative and theological reflection on the day’s scripture text, is a new challenge for me. I look forward to your feedback as I work on this in your midst. I ask not for general praise (“good sermon, Pastor”), even though it is always nice to hear. What really helps me, however, is specific feedback about what was or was not helpful. What images struck you? Did you disagree with something I said? What did the Biblical passage make you think about? Where did you get bored or drift off? How did this message help you, or not help you, grow as a disciple of Jesus? Your honest feedback will be a gift to me.

Through more conversation together about the Sunday sermon, we will also become clearer about the kind of preacher you want to be looking for in your next settled pastor. I look forward to us growing together in these next months: me in my ability to move from my written pages, and all of you in your willingness to share your feedback with me!

In ministry with you,

Anne

Pastor Anne

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Parsonage phone: 410-221-0436

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

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHER FOR MAY 15



Dr. Nan Duerling has been writing and editing curriculum resources for youth and adults since 1984. She believes that God has called her to this ministry, which draws upon her degrees in English, education, and literature, and additional graduate work in theology, as well as her many years of professional and volunteer work as a teacher of high school, college, and adult students. In addition to editing *The New International Lesson Annual* (Abingdon Press) since the 1995-1996 edition, she has made numerous contributions to resources such as *Mature Years*, *Seasons of the Spirit* (UCC), *The Word and You* (UCC), *Leader in the Church School Today*, and *Bible Lessons for Youth*. In 2008, Nan retired from the Course of Study School at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., where she had taught for 22 summers.

Nan and her husband Craig, a software engineering manager with Northrup Grumman, live in Cambridge. Nan's household includes her mom Ruth, Craig's mom Helen, and two very energetic Curly-Coated Retrievers. The Duerlings and their dogs feel privileged to do animal-assisted therapy in a residential facility for adolescent males with psychiatric issues. A member of Zion United Methodist Church, Nan is a certified United Methodist lay speaker, chair of Zion's Missions Committee, and active with Food Link in Dorchester County. She also teaches a weekly lectionary-based Bible study for laity under the auspices of the Dorchester Ministerium.

TREASURER'S UPDATE

The congregation is reminded of some added expenses this year, including an increase in the cost of fuel to heat our building. We also have considerable added health care expenses now that we have a younger pastor with spouse who are both below the Medicare age, as well as the recent addition of a paid nursery staff person. Increases in the fuel and health care costs were included in the 2011 budget approved by the congregation.

The Church Council made a commitment in its December 2010 meeting to fund the nursery position. The General Fund needs additional support at this time, so we can continue offering our strong Immanuel ministries and programs.



(Diana Jackson, Church Treasurer)

MISSION UPDATE

HUGE RESPONSE TO OGH'S APPEAL!

Once again, the generosity of this congregation shines forth as we received \$1417.00 in our **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering last month! Our whole offering is being designated to go to recovery programs in Japan, through the United Church of Christ in Japan, as they rebuild following the earthquake and tsunami.

To follow the work of our mission partners in the recovery progress, check updates on our United Church of Christ missionaries in Japan at <http://globalministries.org/news/>. Many thanks go to all who gave so generously!



We also received news from IUCC member Joyce Wise, who coordinates our annual **Alternative Gift Market** in December that our congregation purchased \$996.70 worth of aid to people living in poverty around the world. Alternative Gifts International informed us that in their 25 years of work, they have now distributed nearly \$25 million dollars in aid. For more information, visit their website at <alternativegifts.org>.

A letter came from World Vision, the organization through which we sponsor a child who lives in poverty in Peru. We send monthly financial support to World Vision for our sponsored child, Benjamin, writes in response to our Christmas gifts:

I am very glad to greet you and pray God also that you are in good health as well. I will tell you that I am on holidays. I did very well school year. Now I will do 5th grade. I enjoyed very much the crayons, card, bubble gum and bands. Here in Peru we don't have this kind of bands; it is very funny. At school we have many celebrations as Mother's day, Father's day, national holidays, Spring's day, our school anniversary, but my favorite is Christmas. Thank you very much for your support. I say good-bye for now and I wish you the best during this year. With much love from, Benjamin

CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE NEWS!

Our local papers noted that **Jay Mitchell Simmons** ("Mitch" to us) also was in the Cambridge-South Dorchester High School's Jazz Ensemble that played at the UMES Jazz Ensemble Festival in March. Mitch plays drums, trumpet and guitar. Our apologies for not mentioning you, Mitch, in last month's newsletter! **Andrew Schnoor** was selected as Cambridge-South Dorchester's "King of the Prom" on Saturday, April 23. **Adam Shelly** received superior rating for singing in the District Choral Solo/Ensemble Festival on February 2.

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

The Christian Education Board and our children's Sunday School teachers have decided to switch to a curriculum that follows the weekly Common Lectionary we use in worship, and one that better reflects the theological diversity of our congregation. After careful review by our current teachers, materials from "Seasons of the Spirit" were chosen. Beginning May 1, the nursery class through middle school will be using "**Seasons of the Spirit**" curriculum, which is lectionary-based resource created in community with congregations from different Protestant denominations around the world. This resource invites young people to explore meaning and mystery in the Bible and to experience the transforming power of Christ. It seeks to nurture faith by engaging the imagination through the Bible, tradition, science, technology, and the arts. Our hope is to send our young people into the contemporary world, with its current events, issues, and discoveries, better equipped to share and live out their faith. Visit their website at <seasonsofthespirit.com> for more information.

Thanks go to our current teachers for their loving work with our children:

Tammy Luthy, ages 3-5

Robin Moore, ages 6-8

Donna Schnoor, ages 9-11

Patti Cannon, ages 12-14



The Christian Education Board would also like to acknowledge and thank **Bill Malkus** who has taught our high-school Sunday School class since his daughter, Lynn, was in high school. This class is currently "on-hold" as we look for a new teacher, and welcome more student involvement. Bill is enjoying turning his attention to choir practice on Sunday mornings, but hopes we can re-start this class again soon. Thank you, Bill, for being such an important mentor to our high school youth through the years!

Susie Creighton graciously stepped-in a year or so ago, to provide a Children's Church experience for younger children during the worship hour. Originally intended to reduce the number of older children in the nursery, Susie has provided this hour of music, scripture and crafts for months on end. The CE Board has agreed that children should be a larger part of our worship life, with the adults. We are shifting to a Second-Sunday Children's Program, following the first part of worship. This will hopefully involve a wide variety of Immanuel adults sharing their talents, hobbies, experiences with our children. Please contact Pastor Anne if you can help with this.

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

Jean Haddaway is also focusing her Sunday morning attention on choir practice, with the ending of her long-term work leading the adult Bible Study on Sunday mornings. Jean taught this class for over 25 years. She has agreed to take over the **May Bible Study on the Book of Acts**, Sunday, May 15 while Pastor Anne is on study-leave. Thank-you, Jean, for your dedication!

A NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

"THE BOOK OF ACTS" - 9:00 TO 9:40 AM

Come join Pastor Anne, as she leads us in exploring the explosive group of the early Christian movement. How did a group of discouraged and frightened followers of Jesus become so bold? What was the urgent message about the Risen Christ that they risked everything to share? How do we encounter this transformative reality of the living Jesus in the 21st century?

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 1-5, 5:00-8:00 pm (light dinner included)
Closing celebration in Sunday worship, August 7



*What happens when a pack of fun-loving panda invades Immanuel UCC?
....a wild celebration of God's Unconditional love!*

At PandaMania VBS, children and their families will discover that God has a purpose and a plan for all of us, and that each of us been crafted by God's own loving hands.

For more information, or to volunteer to help, contact Tammy Luthy at dtluthy@yahoo.com.

NEWS ABOUT THE INTERIM PROCESS

47 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN "2011 AND BEYOND" GROUPS!

A special thanks go to our Interim Team (Bill Bair, Susan Collins, Debbie Robbins, Roger Segar, Joyce Wise) for helping Pastor Anne lead the "2011 and Beyond" Groups through March and April. We held six different sessions during which members and friends described their perceptions of Immanuel's current identity and values. Using the Apostle Paul's image of "the Body of Christ," we considered what kinds of ministries the "Body" of Immanuel might be able to develop in the near future. The groups were filled with candid discussion and laughter. There was poignant sharing about what it means to be part of this congregation and about people's hopes for its future. **A "thanks for speaking" drawing will be held on Sunday, May 1, from the names of those who participated. The winner is invited to bring 5 friends to dinner at the Parsonage!**

Notes from these six group meetings are being collated by the Interim Team and will be brought to the Leadership Retreat on May 7. At that time, members of the Interim Team and the Church Council will fashion a brief vision statement and a more detailed mission that will reflect these findings. These will be shared with the congregation in the coming months, and will guide the formation of the Pastoral Search Committee. Our hope is that nominations will be invited for the Pastoral Search Committee (for the settled pastor) during mid-summer, with the group in place, oriented and working by the beginning of the Fall. This group will begin to assemble the demographic data, significant past history, and a description of the current reality of Immanuel and its vision for the future, as well as characteristics members hope to have in their new pastor.



Graduation - This year we plan to honor our graduates during our worship service on May 22nd at 10:00 a.m. Our graduates will then be honored with a reception in the Narthex following worship. We will also like to include some brief information on each graduate in the church bulletin that day. Information sheets will be sent to each graduate that we currently know about. Please send your information sheet to the church, call 410-228-4640 and we'll take the information by phone or e-mail: immanuelucc@bcctv.net (be sure to put the information in the body of the e-mail - not an attachment as we sometimes can't open attachments due to programming differences.) If you have a graduate in your family (high school or college), please contact the office 410-228-4640 so they can be included in our program.

SPRING SALE - MAY 14

We're looking ahead and planning for Spring. White elephants, good rummage (no clothes, please), bakers (for the bake table), and lots of helpers are needed. Sign up at the church to help bring baked goods or help with the sale. We need customers too - so spread the good word.

SPRING SALE on May 14th at 8:00 a.m.. See prep schedule below

May 12 - Cook and de-bone and cut up chicken 11:00 a.m.

May 12 - Cook chili

May 13 - Cook soups

May 14 - Kitchen help - be at church at 6:00 a.m.



From our kitchen

SECOND NEW MEMBERS GATHERING

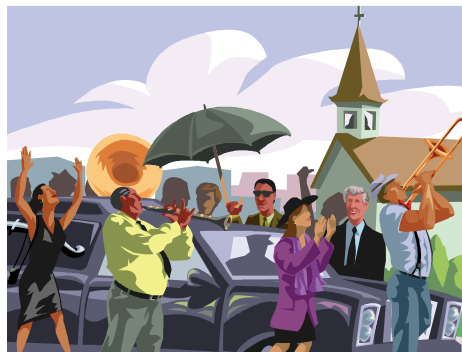
Pastor Anne will meet with the group of people who met for the first new members information session, as well as anyone else interested in church membership at Immanuel UCC, on **Tuesday evening, May 10 at 7:00 pm** at the Parsonage (2903 Cedar Woods Road, Cambridge). New members will be formally received into membership during worship on **Pentecost Sunday, June 7**. There will be additional information sessions, as well as opportunities to join, in the upcoming summer months, if you miss this time. Please speak with her if you are interested.

LOOKING AHEAD.....

**Sunday, June 5 – 10am Worship - Gospel Jazz Sunday
with the Chris Gillis Trio.**

Followed by an OPEN HOUSE AT THE PARSONAGE!

Barbeque lunch - potluck starting at noon

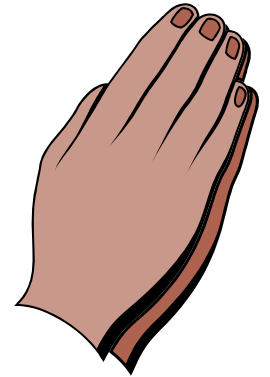


**Saturday, June 11 - 4:30 p.m. Family Fun Show
(Talent Night) - Covered Dish**

IMMANUEL PRAYER LIST: *You are invited to remember these people in prayer during the Prelude today, and throughout the week.*

Members of Immanuel:

Bette ADAMS, recovering from ankle surgery at home
Grace Louise ADKINS, at Mallard Bay
Andrew ALBERT, coping with kidney challenges, son of Philip & Barbara Albert
Jackson BRADLEY, facing treatment for a brain tumor, son of Brian & Jennifer Burton
Dorothy BURTON at home
Norma Lee BURTON, at home recovering from recent fall
Donald CREIGHTON, as he recovers from recent surgery
Marilyn CUSICK, facing health challenges at home
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Chris FOXWELL, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
Frank HOGE, recovering from fall, at home
Mark LUTHY, recovering from surgery at home
Virginia LYONS, at Chesapeake Woods



Friends of Immanuel Church:

Betty ABBOTT, Pat Creighton's step-mother, at Chesapeake Woods,
Kim BROHAWN, granddaughter of Marilyn Cusick, facing MS
Lewis CLARK, friend of the Malkus family, in a care facility in Salisbury
William ELLIOTT, health issues, friend of Terry & Bill Malkus
Kenny ELZEY, Julia Newman's father, at Chesapeake Woods
Candice FABUS and her unborn baby who is facing health challenges, friend of
Jim & Susie Creighton
Mary GARBER, health issues, grandmother of Dennis Katulis
Tracy GARDINER, treatment for cancer, Lou Jones' brother-in-law
Stanley KATULIS, health issues, father of Dennis Katulis
Bruce "Bear" MAYO, terminal cancer, friend of Frank Spillman
Alison PICKARD, in treatment for lung cancer, friend of Lynne Browne & Terry Melius
Rosa PRITCHETT, recovering from fall at Chesapeake Woods, mother of
Peggy MacLauchlan
Dickie ROBBINS, undergoing treatment for leukemia, husband of Debbie
Chris WISE, personal difficulties, friend of Frank Spillman & Joyce Wise

Members Serving in Our Armed Forces:

Jimmy WINDSOR, U.S. Army

Friends Serving in Our Armed Forces:

Thomas JANUSZ, U. S. Army, friend of Joyce Wise and Frank Spillman wounded in action
in Afghanistan in early April
Seth PRUETT, U. S. Army, friend of Joyce Wise
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, grandson of Janice Haller & Don & Patsy Creighton
Ruth WILSON, U. S. Navy, Friend of Josh Dodson & Nicholas Barnett

MAY CELEBRATIONS

Members celebrating May Birthdays

Lindsay McDonald	5/2
Jake Creighton	5/2
Lucas Tolley	5/3
Nicholas Bradley	5/5
Leslie LaCrosse	5/7
Kim Leonard	5/7
Ray Shelly, Jr.	5/10
Sara Slacum	5/15
Amanda Bair	5/15
Kyle Jackson	5/15
Brenda Pinder	5/16
Helen Malkus	5/23
Ronnie McCollister	5/24
Brian Malik	5/24
Kathy Kelly	5/27
Jillian Burton	5/27
Giselle Burton	5/29
Bill Cox, III	5/29
Don Rae	5/30
Ruth Bradley	5/30
Steve McDonald	5/31



Celebrating Anniversary

Susie & Jim Creighton	5/2
George & Connie Barnett	5/7
Christie & Eric Wheatley	5/12
Jill & Jason Segar	5/17
Tracy & Andrew Frase	5/20
Robin & John Moore	5/24



Celebrate our Joy



MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

May 8, 2011 Serving 8:00-9:45 AM

All Immanuel UCC family are welcome!

410-228-4640



IT'S A "SPRING SALE" at Immanuel
Saturday, May 14 - Beginning at 7:00 a.m.

Tables available: \$10.00

Call to reserve your sale table!

Enjoy soup, chicken salad,

Breakfast sandwiches

Bake table (contributions needed)

Call 410-228-4640