

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

IMMANUEL IMAGES

October 2011



October 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)

(The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis preaching through the month.)

*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)*

Sundays in October "Scripture Soak"

Join Pastor Anne from
9:00-9:40 a.m. to
explore the Bible texts
for the day.

Inside This Issue

From the Interim	2
Interim's Message	2
Stewardship Corner	3
Mission Updates	4
To Grow in Faith	5
New Members	5
Fellowship and Fundraising	6-7
Denomination News	8
October Celebrations	9
Prayer List	10

Immanuel Images is Published monthly by Immanuel United Church of Christ, 5401 White Hall Rd. Cambridge, MD 21613. Contact the church at 410228-4640 or our email immanuelucc@bcctv.net to contribute, comment or note changes of address.

October 2, the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time and World Communion Sunday.

We affirm our unity with Christians around the world in this annual observance of World Communion Sunday. Scripture readings include Exodus 20:1-20; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46. You are invited to bring some "Breads and Spreads" to share in Coffee Hour.

October 9, the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We will baptize Luke Cherry, son of Jeff and Alison Cherry, during worship. Scripture readings include Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14. A potluck luncheon and All-Church Talent Show will follow.

October 16, the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Scripture readings include Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:34-46.

October 23, the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time and

Bible Sunday. Worshippers are invited to bring a family or personal Bible to place on our altar, as we celebrate the power of Scripture in our lives. Copies of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible will be presented to our third graders. We will also receive our annual "Neighbors in Need" offering. Scripture passages include Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; I Thessalonians 2:1-8 and Matthew 22:34-46.

October 30, the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time and

Reformation Sunday. We look back at how our Protestant tradition was formed and look forward to how we are daily being "re-formed" in Christ. Scripture includes Joshua 3:1-17; Psalm 107; I Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12.

From the Interim Pastor

The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis

I encountered some rather harsh words the other day, and I am curious as to how you all find yourself reacting to these observations about congregations and prayer. John Ackerman is a Presbyterian pastor and author, and describes what he believes to be a major problem in most churches:

It is my experience that few congregations listen to God's call to them, and few help their members to listen to their individual call and to nurture their ongoing relationship with God....Most congregations and people don't know how to listen to God. Congregations make up their minds by voting according to Robert's Rules of Order. They rarely listen to God or to each other. Individuals may be doing all kinds of work for God, but they rarely stop long enough to hear what God might have in mind.

(from Listening to God: Spiritual Formation in the Congregation)

My first reaction is "ouch!" Are we really like this here at Immanuel Church? Ackerman's words make me wonder about how busy I am, accomplishing what I think is God's work, and sometimes so busy that church business takes precedence over prayer. I think about all the good works being done in and through Immanuel Church, activities that clearly benefit our congregation and the community at large. But how often do we pause in a committee meeting and ask ourselves "in what way does this activity or program follow the desires of God's heart?" I recognize how difficult it is to actually talk together about what might possibly be in the heart and mind of God. Perhaps we think it too grand and bold, even audacious, to claim that we can actually listen to God and know God's desires. I recently heard some church folks from Minnesota, who are of pious but private Scandinavian descent, describe themselves as being "faith introverts." After being among you for over a year now, I would say that Immanuel members are deeply faithful people. But perhaps this is also a congregation of many "faith introverts?" As a number of you have told me, it is often difficult to find the words and to discuss your experience of God with other people.

How do we find more ways to encourage wondering and sharing together about our sense of connection with God? More specifically, how might we take time in our church activities to be still and to listen to God together? Let's also think together about how we might incorporate this kind of listening to God in our church business and fund-raising events. Sunday worship alone is a meager diet when it comes to feeding our faith. I invite you to join me in one of the upcoming small group opportunities to pray and share together (see page 5 for a few such opportunities). Let's see if we can hear more about "what God might have in mind."

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

(A monthly column about supporting Immanuel's ministries)

Our Deacons have asked our Treasurer, Diana Jackson, to summarize the congregation's current financial status, so everyone can see a brief overview of income and expenses to date. Please let Diana or the Deacons know if this helps you better understand what is needed to support our ministries here at Immanuel.

As shown below, we can celebrate that the congregation's generosity in giving has increased during 2011. However, expenses have increased by about \$20,000 this year over last, according to Diana. An increase in clergy health care costs and building/parsonage utilities, as well as the addition of a new paid nursery care provider, account for much of the increase.

INCOME (from all sources)

For the period January 1 through September 20 (year to date)

2011	2010
\$97,675.15	\$95,638.55

For the period August 21 through September 20 (one month)

2011	2010
\$8,338.20	\$6,176.55

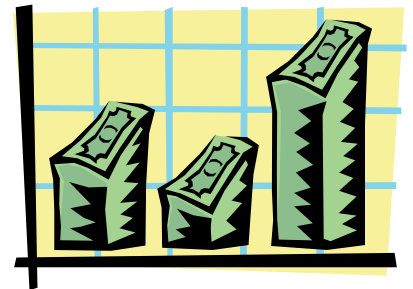
EXPENSES (all categories)

For the period January 1 through September 20 (year to date)

2011	2010
\$107,455.56	\$87,858.88

For the period August 21 through September 20 (one month)

2011	2010
\$8,535.44	\$6,584.28



Often we focus on "how will we meet the budget?" and miss the deeper spiritual implications of our call to give as Christians. Is there a way in which we actually *need to give*, in order to be spiritually healthy and whole? What did Jesus teach about money? In the months ahead, the Deacons will be inviting the congregation into conversation about the connections between generous giving and becoming rich toward God. The personal question, between each of us and God, might be: "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

*(The Deacons: CR Newman, Carole Segar, Jock Luthy,
Scott Dodson, Danny Luthy, Connie Barnett)*

MISSION UPDATES

OUR ANNUAL NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible. Your generous gifts will make a difference in someone's life. We will be receiving the Neighbors in Need offering during worship on October 23rd. Thank you for caring!

MISSIONS BREAKFAST

Missions Breakfast will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 8:30a.m. Our Missions Committee has been working on plans for our annual event to raise funds for our Special Benevolence Fund. Our speaker will be Valerie Nwakudo, who works for the Dorchester County Health Department and will speak with us about current social service needs in our community. Ms. Nwakudo is a member of Christ Episcopal Church and works with the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter. Look for more Information in our November newsletter



Have you been wondering where some of our "Special Benevolence" money goes? Each month, Immanuel sends \$150 to the Salvation Army to purchase 10 SHARE packages (food items they distribute to the needy). We also have on average 20-25 people who come to our door each month seeking assistance for eviction and utility cut-off (electric, gas, water).

Wonder about the procedure to receive this assistance? Their calls for assistance are first screened by the office where they are advised they must first process through Social Services and obtain the necessary form to receive assistance from the churches who are willing to help. Immanuel Church is one of 8 congregations who have agreed to partner with Social Services in this process. The people are then scheduled to meet with Robin Moore. After she interviews them and she checks the form from Social Services and the bill with which they need assistance, money is allotted and Diana Jackson is notified to issue a check to whichever agency or landlord is involved. Over the past several years, our assistance to our community members averages about \$1,200 per month.

In addition to this, Immanuel participates in the Salvation Army Christmas program when we adopt 5 or 6 families, screened by the Salvation Army. Through the generosity of our members and friends, we are able to provide Christmas to these families and through our Special Benevolence we also provide food. Funds are made available to meet this ever increasing need through your contributions throughout the year, and then the fund is replenished through your donations at the Missions Breakfast.

UPCOMING HABITAT BUILD

Come help us with the construction of low income homes.: Saturday, October 8 - 9 am to noon – 439 High St., Cambridge Saturday, November 12 – 9 am to noon – 439 High St., Cambridge Please sign-up in the church office, or on the clipboard at Coffee hour

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW IN FAITH

Interested in deepening your prayer life? or perhaps you ask, “what would it even look like to have a prayer life?!” Have you struggled with what to say to God or with unanswered prayer? Do you wonder what other people at Immanuel are experiencing when they try to pray? Consider being part of a small group that will meet to explore these issues in a safe and welcoming setting. Depending upon interest, Pastor Anne will lead a daytime and/or evening group that will meet each week for 7 weeks. Participants will be asked to read the book *Unbinding the Gospel*, to be as consistent as they can in their participation, and to be willing to experiment a bit in their individual prayer lives. Groups will be limited to 8 participants and will be “closed” to new people once they begin. Speak with Pastor Anne or email her at revasg@northlc.com for more information.

The **Community Bible Study** group that began this past Lent was quite rewarding for those attending, and it will be continuing into this new school year. Mrs. Nan Duerling, editor of the New International Lesson Annual adult Sunday School curriculum, will continue as the group leader. The group meets each Monday from noon until 1:00 p. m. at Zion United Methodist Church, 612 Locust Street, Cambridge, MD (between Locust and Glasgow at Mill). The study is usually lectionary-based, and is open to all.

Sunday morning “Scripture Soak” Join Pastor Anne from 9:00-9:40am each Sunday morning, as we explore the Bible readings for worship. Guaranteed to increase your awareness and sense of involvement in the sermon! Meet with us in the “Sofa Room” at church. Child care provided.

Pastoral Search Committee was confirmed at the congregational meeting held on Sunday, September 18th following worship. Your Pastoral Search Committee consists of Keith Malkus, Leslie Tolley, Marilyn Luthy, Bill Malkus, Susie Creighton, Tammy Luthy, Jack Breil and Scott Dodson. With the confirmation of this committee, the work to find your new settled pastor has begun.

Their first official meeting will be October 9 with our Conference Minister, The Rev. Dr. John Deckenback, who will orient them to some of the best practices in the search process. Please continue to keep the Search Committee in your prayers. Updates on their work will be provided in subsequent newsletters.

NEW MEMBERS

Two new members were welcomed into our congregation on Sunday, September 25th, during our worship service. Please join in welcoming Garrett Roe and Thomas Wilkison . Garrett has been singing in our choir and Tom has already joined us on one Habitat build. It’s wonderful to have their energetic presence in our midst.

If you are considering membership at Immanuel and would like to have more information, about our church or when the next orientation will be held, please contact Pastor Anne. Your faith journey begins with a step!

FELLOWSHIP AND FUND-RAISING

TALENT SHOW after worship on Sunday, October 9th. Come enjoy a potluck lunch (fried chicken provided; bring a side or dessert to share) and the many talents of our congregation. There will be lots of music and fun; contact Jean Haddaway (410-228-3869) if you have yet to sign-up as a performer. All ages and talent/no talent levels welcome!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 from 4:30 - 8 p.m. Join in the fun and enjoy some truly German cuisine at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 5401 White Hall Road, Cambridge, MD 21613

Adults: \$18 (13 years and above)

Children: \$ 8 (4 to 12 years)

Children 3 years and under - Free

Authentic German Food and Music! Desserts extra.

For tickets, please contact Beverly Shelly at 410-228-4890, To volunteer, contact the church office or sign up at coffee hour.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR - November 19, 2011. The holidays are not that far away and plans are being prepared for our Holiday Bazaar. If you are thinking about "Fall House Cleaning", that would be a great time to set aside holiday related items for our sale--all items must be in good shape. We are also planning something new this year--"Silent Action" baskets, such as Christmas Decorations, Christmas Baking, Hunting items, and Children's Toys, so things will also be needed for those baskets. Homemade crafts and canned goods will be welcomed additions to our sale. As always, we will have our chicken salad, soups and baked goods, in addition to our "Country Store". We will need helpers and sign-up sheets will be placed in the Narthex. Please mark this date on your calendars and come out to either help or support our Bazaar, we always have a lot of fun. If you have any questions, please call Diane Murphy 410-228-5167 or Jean Haddaway 410-228-3869.



LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT we will celebrate our traditional Family Christmas Lunch on December 4th immediately following worship. Look for more details in our November newsletter.

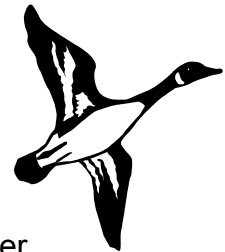
MORE FELLOWSHIP AND FUND-RAISING



AUTO SHOW FUND-RAISER: At the recent auto show fundraiser for Jackson Bradley, chairman, Fred Jones accepts a check from Philip Jackson, President of the Congregation, and Wallace Dodson. These funds collected from members and friends of Immanuel United Church of Christ, will go towards helping with medical expenses for Jackson Bradley. Jackson is a young member of the church undergoing treatment for brain cancer. Below is a picture of Jackson Bradley at the fund-raiser.



FAMILY WATERFOWL HUNT This summer the Church Council approved a new fund raising event: the first Immanuel Family Waterfowl Hunt. This event will be a spiritual and family based waterfowl hunt based on a similar event that takes place in Easton each winter. The concept is to sponsor an affordable waterfowl hunt for families on donated properties throughout Dorchester County. We plan for Saturday, January 7, 2012.



The event will include a continental breakfast, morning hunt, wild game style lunch with a guest speaker and silent/normal action. We plan on tickets being in the \$50/person range so that parents can afford to take their children. The event will be based completely on donations from area landowners, food provided by local hunters and all labor from our congregation and friends.

We believe it will take at least 12-15 volunteers to organize this event and coordinate the necessary activities to make this event run smoothly. We believe that it will be no problem to raise \$10,000 through this event as long as all the work is done ahead of time.

All volunteers welcome even if you are not a hunter yourself. We envision there being 5 teams needed: Blind Site/Guide Recruitment, Wild Game Lunch, Guest Speaker/Action/ Give-aways, Sponsorships, Registration/Legal Team.

Please come out and help. **Our next planning meeting is Thursday, October 6th.** This has been a very profitable event to the church in Easton and can also be for us.

If you cannot volunteer but know of or control hunting properties we may be able to use for a day, please notify either John Moore (443-521-5957) or Jock Luthy (410-463-0985).

FALL ASSOCIATION MEETING
Chesapeake Association, Central Atlantic Conference
United Church of Christ

WHEN: Saturday, October 15th
10:30 am – 3:00 pm

WHERE: St. John's United Church of Christ
Catonsville, Maryland (near BWI Airport)

WHAT: Gathering of laypeople and clergy from the 25 churches
within our Association.

A time of fellowship, worship and learning from one another.

THEME: "Asset Mapping in the Local Church"
Come learn how to assess the many assets
(people and building space) that we have in our
local congregations. How does God want us to
use these "assets" in building the Reign of God
in our community and wider world?

Our interim Pastor, Anne Swallow Gillis, will be attending and invites others from Immanuel Church to join her. Contact her if you are interested in attending, and you can car-pool together. St. John's is about a 1.5 hour drive from Cambridge.

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Members celebrating October Birthdays

Paul Jackson	10/6
C. R. Newman	10/9
Leslie Tolley	10/12
Jarrett Newman Ashton	10/12
Barbara Bailey	10/13
Max Schnoor, Jr.	10/13
Amy Malkus	10/13
Jack Haddaway Dodson	10/15
Robin Moore	10/18
Hannah McDonald	10/19
Natalee Malkus Lyons	10/23
Bette Adams	10/27
John Dodson	10/30
Danny Luthy	10/30
Susie Creighton	10/31

October Anniversaries

The Rev. Anne Swallow & Chris Gillis 10/27



Celebrate our Joy

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

Pastoral Search Committee

Keith Malkus
Marilyn Luthy
Susie Creighton
Tammy Luthy

Leslie Tolley
Bill Malkus
Jack Breil
Scott Dodson

Church Contact Information

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

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 immune system problems, son of Philip & Barbara Albert
Jackson BRADLEY, receiving chemo for a brain tumor, son of Brian & Jennifer Burton
Dorothy BURTON at home
Meryllyn CUSICK, facing health challenges at home
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Bill GIESE, recovering from surgery (son-in-law of Helen Malkus)
Virginia LYONS, at Chesapeake Woods
Frank SPILLMAN, in the loss of his father Frank, Sr.



Friends of Immanuel Church:

Betty ABBOTT, Pat Creighton's step-mother, at Chesapeake Woods
Kim BROHAWN, granddaughter of Meryllyn Cusick, facing MS
Ken BURGWIN, beginning cancer treatment, friend of Kim & Dave Leonard and Don & Doris Rae
William ELLIOTT, friend of Terry & bill Malkus, health issues
Kenny ELZEY, Julia Newman's father, at Chesapeake Woods
Olivia NOSSICK, grand-daughter of Lynn Nossick, undergoing treatment for a tumor behind her eye
Vickie PICKETT, friend of Kim Leonard, undergoing breast cancer treatment
Elwood ROSENCRANCE, Lou Jones' father, health issues

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 the Middle East, 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
Edwin LEAVITT, Major, U. S. Army, son of Jane & Dick Leavitt
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
Chad WEBB, U. S. Marine Corps, serving in Afghanistan, foster grandson of Jane & Dick Leavitt
Ruth WILSON, U. S. Navy, friend of Josh Dodson & Nicholas Barnett



PREPARE FOR WINTER, NOW!
It is time to start thinking about
PRE-PAID FUEL FOR THE 2011 – 2012
HEATING SEASON GOAL: \$8,500

Please make your check payable to Immanuel UCC
Memo – “Pre-Paid Fuel”
Could you help us warm the church? Thank you.

Join us for “Oktoberfest”
Saturday, October 22, 2011
German Dinner starting at 4:30 p.m.
(See inside for more information)

