



IMMANUEL

ANGELICAN CHURCH

God with us for the sake of others



NEWCOMERS' GUIDE



IMMANUEL
ANGLICAN CHURCH

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The Rev. Travis Hines, Rector

Welcome to Immanuel!

Whether you're here every week or you're visiting for the first time, we're glad you're with us. Our prayer is that, through the presence and work of the Holy Spirit, your faith and trust in Jesus will grow while you are here, and that your heart will be stirred to worship and serve Him. We hope you will consider yourself family, as that is how we saw you, even before you walked through the door.

Everyone is loved and valued here. Regardless of your starting point, whether filled with the joy of the Lord or heavily burdened and aching for answers, or somewhere in the middle, you will find that hope and love are spoken at Immanuel. We look forward to getting to know you, and if you would like more information about anything in this guide or at Immanuel in general, please feel free to contact us and we would be happy to get you connected with someone who can help. And whether you decide to stay a while or you're just passing through, may you always know that...

You are loved,

Travis +

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What is Anglicanism?

Anglicanism is called the “middle way.” Anglicans are catholic in that we follow the teachings and worship style of the ancient church. The church has been saying many of the same prayers we pray each week since the first century! Yet, Anglicanism has been greatly influenced by the Protestant Reformation as well. We hold strongly to the authority of the Bible as God’s revealed word. We also believe that every person is called to have a personal relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. We are also called to serve others in the love of Christ, helping them to know the truth of the gospel. Today, Anglican churches exist in more than 165 countries.

Church Structure

Immanuel Anglican Church is one of more than 1,000 organizations in the **Anglican Church of North America**, which is led by an Archbishop, The Most Rev. Stephen D. Wood.

Regionally, we are part of the **Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic**, led by our Bishop, the Right Reverend Chris Warner. The Diocese includes more than 40 congregations in Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Delaware, Pennsylvania, eastern West Virginia, and northeastern North Carolina.

What We Believe

We affirm the historic Apostles Creed, Nicene Creed, and Athanasian Creed as faithful articulations of belief held by Christians since the time of Jesus and his apostles. Central to all of them is Jesus – fully God, fully man, expressing the full love of God in his bodily life, death, resurrection, and ascension. In his name alone we receive freedom from sin, bondage, death, and condemnation, and through him we receive the Spirit, participation in God’s kingdom, and eternal life in the embrace of the Father.

Vision

Our identity and our calling are expressed in our name—Immanuel, which means “God with us”...for the sake of others. At the center of our logo stands the cross, signifying the centrality of Jesus—his life, death, resurrection, and ascension draw us into life with God. Three rings encircle the cross,

About Us



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representing how we experience, “God with us for the sake of others.” Each color denotes a different facet of life with God:



We gather to worship God and are sent out to honor him in every aspect of our lives.



We cultivate spiritual growth through engaging God's Word, spiritual disciplines, and community.



We share God's love with others through evangelism, compassion ministries, and prayer.

In Jesus, we are **with** the Father and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, joining with God in cultivating His Shalom in this world, and in the world to come. Our **with-ness** is our witness (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Mission

We cultivate a Spirit-filled family that goes into our communities and the world to offer Refuge, Reconciliation, and Renewal, inviting everyone to experience life with God the Father in Jesus Christ.

History

Immanuel Anglican Church got its start in October 1963, when a small group of members began meeting at Fred Lynn Middle School in Woodbridge. In October 1964, the congregation chose the name St. Margaret's and moved into its new home on Church Hill Drive as part of the Episcopal Church USA. Remaining faithful to the centrality of Jesus and the authority of the Scriptures, the congregation separated from the Episcopal Church in 2006. We affiliated with other congregations as founding members of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic which was admitted to the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

In 2012, we left our property on Church Hill Drive, worshipping God in various firehouses and schools. One year later, the congregation voted to change the name to Immanuel Anglican Church. In December of 2022, we completed the current building, our Mission Outpost and House of Worship, and took another step forward into God's future for Immanuel.

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Service Times

8 a.m. Worship Service

A simple, traditional one-hour service with no music, yet filled with the Spirit through the Word and Sacrament and followed by food and friendship. For those desiring a quiet, contemplative engagement with God through ancient liturgy and sacramental actions, join us for this “Spoken Eucharist.” No childcare or livestreaming is provided during the 8 a.m. service.

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Available in person and via livestream, this 90-minute service is rooted in Scripture, Sacrament, and ancient Anglican liturgy, alive with blended music and offerings for children, and followed by food and friendship. All are welcome!

Children and Teens

Children are welcome at all services at Immanuel. Their whispers and wiggles are fine with us. Sometimes, however, they (or you!) need a break. We offer a nursery staffed with trained personnel during the 10:30 a.m. service for **infants through pre-school-aged** children. The children will have a Bible lesson and activity, play with friends and have snack time.

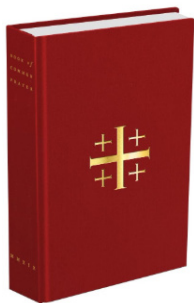
Some parents pick up their children and bring them to the worship service for communion. However, childcare is available throughout the entire worship. Visit the children’s check-in desk in the hallway or ask for directions to the children’s rooms.

Children who are in **kindergarten through 5th** grade begin worship with their family. Just prior to the Scripture readings, they are ushered to the center aisle for a blessing before they leave for Children’s Church. They return following the Prayers for the People to receive Communion with their families.

Teens sixth grade and higher participate in youth group. Youth group usually meets after the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service, from noon until 1:30 p.m. for lunch, games and Bible study in Classroom 4.

Services at Immanuel

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About the Liturgy

Our Anglican liturgy is ancient and contemporary, shaped by generations of faithful worshippers. The order of service is guided by the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) of 2019. The BCP is a collection of prayers, instruction, and devotional materials that guide all aspects of Anglican service, to include weddings and baptisms, morning and evening prayer, and the daily and weekly guidance for Christian living. Notice the flow of the service:

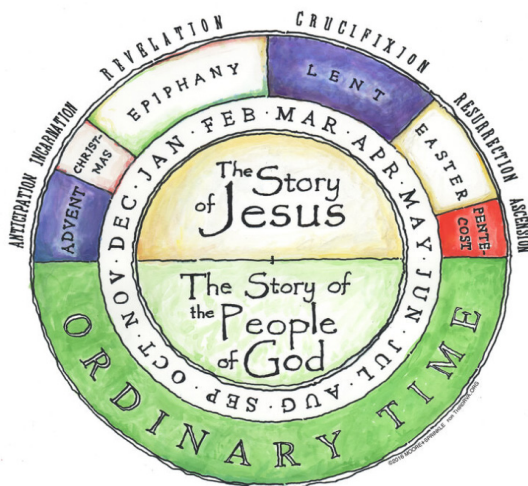
- We are gathered together.
- We listen to the Word.
- We respond in prayer and confession.
- We give ourselves to God and God gives Himself to us in Holy Communion.
- God sends us into the world to live with Him for the sake of others.

Bible Translation

Scripture used during the service is taken primarily from the English Standard Version (ESV) Bible translation.

Anglican Calendar

The Anglican church follows the story of Jesus through the seasons of His life. There are seasons of waiting and anticipation, seasons of self-reflection, and seasons for celebration, all focused on the times of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. The half of the year not spent preparing for or celebrating the principal feast days (Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints Day), is considered Ordinary Time—days “ordered” by God as the Church lives out her vocation in the world.



Created by Mark Sprinkle and Andrew Moore from Third Church. Used with permission.

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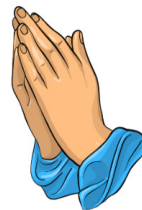
Eucharist

All baptized believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Stand or kneel at the altar rail and place one hand in the palm of the other. The Priest gives you the Bread (gluten-free wafers are available on request), which you hold until the Lay Eucharistic Minister offers you the wine. Then you intinct (dip) the Bread into the Wine and put it into your mouths.

To indicate a preference not to intinct the Bread, eat the wafer and place one hand across your chest. To indicate a preference not to receive Bread or Wine, cross both arms over your chest—the priest will pray a blessing over you.

Prayer During Service

Quite often we arrive at the church burdened by our day-to-day troubles and concerns; other times our hearts might be convicted of an urgent need for prayer during the sermon or while in worship, or we might have wonderful news that fills our hearts with gratitude. Immanuel's intercessors are available at the second service during communion to pray with and over you. Look for them at the doors on either side on the back wall of the Nave. If the door is closed, it means someone is receiving prayer. Stand by the door and someone will bring you inside as soon as they can.



After the Services

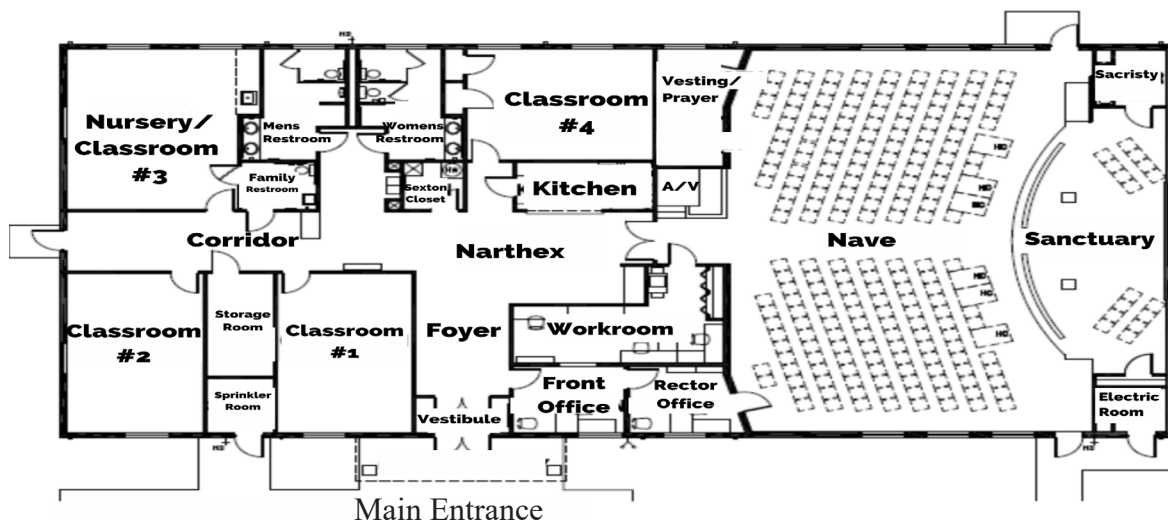
Come get to know us, and let us get to know you! Following each service, please join us for coffee, snacks, and fellowship. There is always a table filled with treats in Classroom 1 (see the floor map on page 6), and a coffee and tea table is set up in the main hallway.

Before you leave, stop at the table by the door for a copy of The Weekly. This handout, also available online, provides information about the various events and gatherings taking place at Immanuel (more details about that in the Membership section on page 12).

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Life Together at Immanuel

Church Floor Plan



Typically, small gatherings and classes are held in one of the four numbered classrooms. Children's Church meets in Classroom #2. The youth meet in Classroom #4 on Sunday afternoons for Bible study, and snacks are offered after the services in Classroom #1. For special events, such as our annual chili cook-off and the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, tables are set up in the nave so there is room for everyone.

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Leadership at Immanuel starts with Jesus. The leadership team of Immanuel includes clergy, lay staff, and an elected vestry. The entire team works with one focus in mind: “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12)

Staff and Vestry

The Reverend Travis S. Hines

Rector

Father Travis began serving this congregation as our rector in June 2020. He is a Texan by birth, a husband, and father of four. He studied at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA.

Staff

Immanuel’s staff (see inside back page of this guide) enables our church to fulfill our vision and mission. Since the staff is small in number, much of the work required to keep Immanuel running smoothly is accomplished through volunteers. Volunteers donate many hours both behind the scenes and on Sunday mornings to care for the people and the building, and to fill the many service roles involved in the worship services.

Vestry

The Vestry is an elected body of lay leaders that provides oversight in the business affairs, activities, and property of the church; prays regularly for the church and its mission; and serves as a resource for godly counsel, biblical wisdom, and vision casting with the Rector. A list of vestry members is on the inside back page of this guide.

Communications

The Weekly

Immanuel publishes a weekly newsletter, which includes “The Pastor’s Corner” (a message from the clergy) and announcements about events for the coming weeks. The Weekly is available on a table in the foyer and on the church website. To subscribe, scroll to the bottom of the web page and fill out the form.

Social Media

The church website is at iachurch.org, where you can find up-to-date details and links regarding events at Immanuel.

Streaming Services are available from the home page of our website. In addition to live services, we have an archive of past services accessible with just one mouse click.

We also have a facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/iachurchva>, and YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/@iachurch/featured>. These sites also offer alternative ways to watch our services online.

Email

Queries to Immanuel at office@iachurch.org are answered promptly. Please note, the building is closed on Mondays, so messages sent over the weekend may be answered on Tuesdays.

Volunteering

Immanuel gratefully depends on our volunteers, who generously contribute their time and energy for the good of the church body. However, we believe the decision regarding when and where to serve grows out of a desire to “give back” to God from a place of gratitude and not from a sense of guilt or pressure. Rather than jump in to help, take some time to allow the Holy Spirit to nudge you in the direction He would have you serve. Philippians 2:13 says, “For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” This means you can trust He will not only steer you, but will also equip you for the work you are to do.

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Volunteer Ministries

The following list is not all-inclusive, but suggests a few areas where volunteers can always find ways to help. To assist in any of these areas, please call or contact the Ministry Leader (on the next page) or Vestry liaison (see list inside the back cover). Note that some areas, particularly those that involve working with children or teens, require background checks, proof of identity, and references so we can ensure we are doing all we can to protect our young ones.

- **Children's Ministry.** Help is needed to care for infants and toddlers, and to teach Childrens' Church.
- **Youth Group.** Get to know these amazing young people through weekly Bible study or a driver/chaperone during trips and activities.
- **Music Ministry.** Do you sing or play an instrument? Are you interested in the audio-visual side of worship? Share your musical talent with the Music Ministry.
- **Intercessory Prayer.** Praying with others with and for the church and her congregation. If you would like to receive prayer for anything in particular, whether big or small, general or very personal please ask someone to connect you with Margaret Mann or the prayer team.
- **Outreach.** Taking care of our neighbors. Immanuel sponsors many ministries at home and abroad. We provide schools with supplies, clothing, food, and backpacks; support missions in other countries; donate time and resources to local non-profit organizations (such as the ACTS food pantry and LifeFirst); we serve meals to the homeless; and we pray (and bake cookies!) for members of the congregation who bring God's word into local prisons through Kairos Ministries.
- **Inreach.** Taking care of our church family. Some of the many ways to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ include gardening on the church grounds, making minor home repairs for members of the congregation, delivering meals and bring eucharist to the homebound.



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Ministry Leaders

Acolytes: Phil Oravetz (philoravetz0522@gmail.com)

Altar Guild: Kathy Westcott (ktwestcott@gmail.com)

A/V & Sound: Barbara Finney (blynn56@verizon.net) and Allen Wheeler (awdumfries@gmail.com)

Building & Grounds: Scott Ankers (ankers4@comcast.net) and Phil Westcott (prwestcott@yahoo.com)

Children's Ministry: Melissa Byers (mbyers@iachurch.org)

Fellowship: Kathleen Harding (kathleenmharding@aol.com)

Inreach: Contact office@iachurch.org

Intercessory Prayer: Diana Brady (dianabrady@verizon.net)

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ankers (mankers@pwcgov.org)

Mission and Outreach: Contact office@iachurch.org

Music Ministry: Meredyth Stirling (merestir@yahoo.com), Phoebe Giannini, and Barbara Finney (blynn56@verizon.net)

Readers: Barbara Finney (blynn56@verizon.net)

Sextons: Taira Oravetz (tairaoravetz@gmail.com) and Gary Grey (gary86@gmail.com)

Stephen Ministry: Father Travis

Thurifers: Mike Harpster (mikeharpster@comcast.net)

Ushers: Gary Motsek (motsekg@gmail.com)

Vestry: Deb Tomcheck (dtomchek@aol.com)

Youth Group: Melissa Byers Mbyers@iachurch.org

Financial Giving

God gives to us, and we respond by giving back to him as an expression of stewardship, generosity, and partnership. Giving cultivates relationship with God and others, expressed as we Worship, Grow, and Serve. Our generous financial response to the Father enables us to nurture the Immanuel family *and* introduce others to Jesus *in* the building God has given us.

Giving to the Operating Account enables Immanuel to fund staff positions, programs, missions, and the day-to-day life of the church. Giving to the Building Fund enables Immanuel to pay for the mortgage and for building projects.

You may give online, use “giving envelopes,” or place checks or cash in the offering plates. Contact Lydia Schnack, our Pledge Records Secretary, for more details.

Fellowship

In addition to serving, the Immanuel family takes joy in spending time together, celebrating with feasts, studying over scripture, and participating in smaller group activities based on shared interests. The below list of ongoing fellowship activities is not all-inclusive. Sign up for The Weekly for announcements about these and other activities.

- Worship Nights
- Men's and Women's Retreats
- Men's and Women's Monthly Dinners
- Small group Bible studies
- Youth Group
- Book Club
- Annual Chili Cookoff and Line Dancing
- Church Picnics

Joining Immanuel

Baptism

Baptism is adoption into the Father's family, union with Christ in His body, installation as a living stone in the temple of the Spirit . . . and sharing in the resurrection life of Jesus." (Peter Leithert). Baptism is a conduit of grace enabling us to die to sin and live to God by the power of the Holy Spirit. Speak with Father Travis if you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child.

Confirmation

Confirmation is a mature profession of faith, publicly renewing the vows made at baptism, and it follows an extended time of teaching and preparation. .During confirmation, a bishop lays hands on a person and prays for strengthening by the Holy Spirit. See Father Travis if you are interested in confirmation.

Membership

Being a member of a church signifies a formal commitment to its congregation, indicating a desire to be part of a the community of believers and actively participate in living life together. Aside from attending services; it's a commitment to fellowship, service, and mutual accountability. Depending on your starting point (whether transferring from another church, just starting a journey with Jesus, or somewhere in between) some of the steps below might not apply.

Membership Checklist

- ☐ Meet with the Rector or attend Membership Class
- ☐ Fill out membership form (see insert)
- ☐ Request records from previous church (if applicable)
- ☐ Request name tag from office
- ☐ Register on Realm for financial giving

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Common Terms

Acolytes - (often Immanuel's youth) assist the clergy during the service.

Altar Guild - people who care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and linens; they prepare the sanctuary for services and clean up afterward.

Censer - A container in which incense is burned.

Communion - Receiving the body and blood of Christ.

Eucharist - The consecrated Bread and Wine. In a service, this also refers to the time of preparing both the altar and our hearts for receiving the Bread and Wine.

Intercessors - those who pray on behalf of others, often laying their hands on them to share and help lift their burden to God.

Lay Eucharistic Minister - person authorized by the bishop (or other authority) to administer Holy Communion during liturgical services.

Litany - a series of petitions or ancient forms of prayer that use repeated statements in response to petitions, praise, and intercessions.

Liturgy - the customary ritual of worship performed by a religious group.

Narthex - the entry space located between the entrance and the main worship area.

Nave - main area where the congregation gathers for worship.

Sacrament - religious ceremony or ritual regarded as imparting Divine grace. There are two primary sacraments in the Anglican tradition: holy baptism and holy communion.

Sacristy - a room in a church where sacred vestments or vessels are kept.

Sanctuary - the consecrated and most sacred area typically located at the front of the building where the altar is located.

Sexton - a person who cares for the church property and minor tasks.

Shalom - Peace.

Thurifer - An acolyte who carries the censer.

Vestments - ceremonial garments and articles worn during a service.

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NOTES

[illegible]

Vestry

Deb Tomchek, Senior Warden
Administration
dtomchek@aol.com

Scott Ankers, Junior Warden
Buildings & Grounds
ankers4@comcast.net

Janice Flynn
Community
grammy41966@icloud.com

Paul Giannini
Pastoral Care
pjgiannini13@gmail.com

Jazmyn McGinley
Missions & Outreach
jazmynpaige18@gmail.com

Jerry Fitzsimmons
Communications
jerrylynn1031@gmail.com

Kathy Oravetz
Discipleship/Formation
koravetzdpt@gmail.com

Vickie Morse
Worship Services
vmorse@verizon.net

Jack Sova
Liaison at Large
sova@comcast.net

Becky Ragon, Registrar
Worship Services
beckyragon25@gmail.com

Staff

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Rector
thines@iachurch.org

Lydia Schnack
Pledge Records Secretary
schnack.lydia@gmail.com

Cheryl Timmons
Bookkeeper
ctimmons@iachurch.org

Danny Cade
Office Volunteer
dcade@iachurch.org

Tyra Harpster
Director of Parish Administration
tharpster@iachurch.org

Melissa Byers
Director of Family Ministries
mbyers@iachurch.org

Meredyth Stirling
Organist
merestir@yahoo.com

Immanuel Connection Card

I am interested in:

- ☐ Small Groups
- ☐ Newcomers' Lunch
- ☐ "The Weekly" Email
- ☐ Music Ministry
- ☐ Children's Ministry
- ☐ Youth Ministry
- ☐ Volunteer Opportunities
- ☐ Having a name tag
- ☐ Speaking with Clergy

Please contact me by:

By Email: _____

By Telephone: _____

Immanuel
Connection Card

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zip_____

Email_____

Phone_____

I am a:

☐ First Time Guest

☐ Second Time Guest

☐ Regular Attender

Please pray for....

YOU

ARE

LOVED!