



The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

September 21, 2025

Pastor's Corner "The Kingdom Value of Life"

Earlier this year, on Sanctity of Life Sunday, we reflected on how the following Scriptures emphasize the value that our Father places on every life, along with the call to honor, care for, and protect every life:

- **Genesis 1:26-27** declares that every life is created in the image of God. The articulation of this truth is unique to Jews and Christians. No other religion or philosophy contains the remarkable, image-bearing-reality that is foundational to how we understand ourselves and every person—*our eternal Creator has imbued each person with eternal value.*
- **Psalm 82:1-4** issues a mandate that recurs throughout the Law, the Prophets, the teachings of Jesus, and the teaching of the apostles: "Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 82:4). *Because our Father equally values each life, he commands his people to actively protect society's vulnerable ones.*
- **Jesus's parable in Luke 14:12-14** calls for hospitality and care to be given to those living with disabilities and those struggling with poverty. The resources we have are to be generously shared with those whom—in

others' eyes—have little to offer. ***We are to care for each person with the care of Jesus, valuing them for who they are as they are.***

- **Philippians 2:1-11** sings of how deeply Jesus, the eternal Son of God, values every life. He “emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of man...becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross,” to rescue each person who believes in him (Philippians 2:8-11). ***His incarnation conveys the value of our humanity, and the offering of his own life conveys the beloved worth of every human life.***

I remind you of these Spirit-inspired truths for two reasons. First, as we continue lamenting, repenting from, and confronting our nation’s verbal and physical violence of the past weeks, months, and years, **the above Kingdom of God truths must ground and form our forward movement.** As our Archbishop Steve Wood recently wrote:

As citizens of a different Kingdom (Philippians 3:20), our calling in these days is not to answer with bitterness or despair, but to reflect the eternal values of that Kingdom (Hebrews 12:28), embodying the hope and peace of the gospel to which we bear witness.

Second, Becky Sheetz, the CEO of our ministry partner [Life First](#), is visiting our congregation this upcoming Sunday. **After both services, Becky will elaborate on a [proposed amendment \(HJ1\)](#) to the Virginia Constitution that potentially threatens the protection of life in the womb, as well as the protection of women, adolescent girls, and pregnancy centers.** Becky will unpack the language of the

amendment, give Life First's recommendations for how to respond, and answer any questions you may have.

Immanuel has an essential role in these difficult but *not* hopeless days: We offer to our communities, our nation, our world **Refuge, Reconciliation, and Renewal in Jesus**. When we gather to

worship this Sunday, the Spirit will continue empowering our family to love others as Jesus loves us.

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

Missions Corner—Pastor Sallie's Sojourn

This call from God to international ministry/mission was an unexpected shock. But when God calls you go. So off to Bali I will go in a few months.

How do I communicate with Pastor Sallie. I want to send email cards, cards in the post, etc....

There are a couple of ways to communicate with me. One is through the postal service. I have been told by Kevin Robinson, who has extensive experience in Indonesia, that items through the post will reach me. So here is the address:

**Jl. Balangan Putih No.32 Jimbaran
Kecamatan Kuta Selatan
Kabupaten Badung**

**Bali, 80361
Indonesia**

I will also have an email address through Gmail that is a secure line set up by AFM for you to use; sallierathbone5@gmail.com.

A couple of things about communicating with me through email.

As I said in a previous weekly message, Indonesia isn't a safe place. Please do not communicate

- Anything that is political in nature
- Anything that is highly confidential
- Anything about my location in Bali
- Anything that identifies the mission and my role as a cross-cultural worker; my VISA will indicate that I am a teacher, again to protect identity.

I am sure you understand the importance of security for both me and you.

However, feel free to share all the news about what Jesus is doing in your life. I will be sending a monthly newsletter to Immanuel telling you how Jesus is bringing the Gospel to this unreached people group.

God Bless,

Sallie

Prayers for those on Missions: Uganda Mission, Wheels for the World. Thank you for all the bicycle gloves and

wheelchair bags! The team in Uganda will be passing them out along with the wheelchairs. A visible sign of Jesus' love reaching from Immanuel Anglican Church around the world to Kampala Uganda.

Worship

Please join us, each Sunday at 8:00am or 10:30am at 7075 Hoadly Road, Manassas, VA. You may also join us at 10:30am via [livestream](#).

Morning Prayer is offered via [Zoom](#) every Thursday at 8am.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85934655171>
Meeting ID: 859 3465 5171

Morning Prayer is offered at Immanuel Tuesday - Friday, in the Nave from 8:30am - 9:30am.
Midday prayer is offered Tuesday – Friday in the Nave at noon.

Visit iachurch.org/worship for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 27	Men’s Bible Study new study	8-10 am CR1
Sept. 28	Confirmation Class	9:15-10:15am CR4
Oct. 5	Confirmation Class	9:15-1:15am CR4
Oct. 5	Blessing of the Pets	3:00-5:00 pm
Oct 12	Confirmation Class	9:15-10:15am CR4

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Junior warden Update on Immanuel Safety Coordinators: I have been working with lead usher Gary Motsek and a few of the ushers as well as some parishioners with medical backgrounds to develop processes for handling the most common emergencies that we may experience here at Immanuel. These include fire emergencies, medical emergencies, as well as situations where we may have to shelter due to severe weather events. We have done a fairly good job in the past with no formal processes in place where nurses and ushers have stepped up and handled cases where an ambulance was needed or when the fire alarm has gone off. Ideally, we should aim for a consistent process to limit confusion and ensure the safety of building occupants.

I would like to emphasize that what we are implementing now is not all encompassing as far as all scenarios or events at the church. That will come. For now, we wanted to get something out that covers the most likely scenarios on Sunday. How to handle other events or scenarios during other days of the week will be communicated appropriately in additional iterations as we develop this further. Also, of note, this is not complicated. It's mostly about getting people out of the building in a calm, orderly manner and located to a known rally point.

We have developed this in conjunction with the Children's Ministry, who already had some processes in place. Also, we sought feedback from other churches and organizations. The recent issues with the smoke alarms also served inadvertently as fire drills where we adapted lessons learned to our processes.

What you should know for now is that you will see selected ushers who will have red name tags. They will serve as safety

coordinators and will direct any evacuations needed or requirements for emergency medical services. Additionally, some parishioners with medical backgrounds such as nurses will have purple name tags so they are easily identified by the safety coordinator. I have contacted some nurses but there may be others I am not aware of so please see me if you have a medical background that you feel would be useful such as a nurse, EMT, etc.

So, to conclude, please follow the direction of the safety coordinator during a fire or other emergency to ensure that we provide a safe environment for our Immanuel family.

Sincerely,

Scott Ankers
Junior Warden

Meals for Hilda Barg: Immanuel Anglican Church will be providing meals to the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center on September 19th & 20th. Please sign up to prepare and deliver one or more of the menu items by clicking [here](#) or by visiting our website. Delivery instructions are on the sign-up page. Your generosity helps shine the light of Jesus for those in need.

Backpacks for Kids is back! Each Friday, 40 Martin Luther King Elementary (King Elementary) children receive a bag filled with breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks for the weekend. How to help:

Put a check in the offering plate labeled Backpacks for Kids. Bring donations of food (see list on the flyer by the collection

box in the hallway. Contact Dean or Pat Tony patbtony@gmail.com to help pack and/or deliver food to King Elementary.

Men's Retreat: Men of Immanuel, mark your calendars! Our annual Men's Fall Retreat will be held October 31 – November 2 at beautiful Cagapon State Park in Berkeley Springs. This weekend is designed to strengthen your relationship with God and foster deeper connections with other men of faith. If you haven't registered yet but wish to attend, please contact Nick Makrides or Bob Mann for more information. Don't miss this opportunity for spiritual renewal, connection, and encouragement.

The Food Cupboard Ministry: For the month of September, we are collecting 16 oz plastic containers of **PEANUT BUTTER** and 12 oz plastic containers of **JELLY**. Why does ACTS ask for small sizes of cans and jars of food? Each family receives a bag full of canned foods and all the cans must fit in one bag. In addition to the bag of canned foods, families can receive bread, cereal, fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, milk, flour, etc. (if they are available). "Every donation brings hope and relief to a neighbor in need. Thank you for standing with us and making a real impact!"- ACTS on Facebook. The food cupboard is to the left as you enter the storage room located between classrooms 1 & 2.

Realm Update: Progress is still being made. Next several days will be spent getting other reoccurring events in Realm. Also planning a Realm Connect demo in the Nave soon. If you have any question or do not have an account to log on and want one, email office@iachurch.org or MikeHarpster@comcast.net. There is also a web interface at <http://onream.org/iachurch>.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Immanuel Kids: Each season (fall, winter, spring, and summer) brings something unique and wonderful. From leaves changing colors to flowers blooming or animals hibernating, the changing seasons remind us that no matter what, God is with us through it all. In this 4-week series, kids will discover how we can respond to God in every season of life. They'll learn that **God's words are always in season, God leads us in every season, God hears us no matter the season, and we can thank God for every season.**

Youth Group: Youth in 6th-12th grade are invited to join youth group Sundays after the service from 12:15 -1:30 p.m. Lunch is provided. Bring a friend and come ready for games, great conversations, and growing closer to God. Contact Melissa Byers mbyers@iachurch.org to join our newsletter for important dates for our youth.

Sunday Night Men's Bible Study: This group will resume their studies on Sunday, September 21st from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The basic format is to open in prayer, watch a DVD presentation followed by a related discussion and closing prayer. The 5-week program will be Max Lucado's "God Never Gives Up on You". If you have any questions, see or email Bob Mann (mannrm@comcast.net) or Mike Harpster (MikeHarpster@comcast.net).

Men's Dinner: All Immanuel men and their guests are invited to join us for some fellowship and conversation at our weekly Monday Men's Dinner on September 22, at 5:00 pm at Not Your Average Joe's located at 15101 Potomac Town Plaza, Woodbridge. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: Continues Monday, September 22, we are in the third chapter of Sarah K. Howley's book "Word: An 11 Session Study of Matthew." The group meets via ZOOM Mondays from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please contact Kathy Oravetz at 571-334-8786 or koravetzdpt@gmail.com for more information.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: Join us on September 30, as we begin following The Chosen, Seasons 5: Last Supper. Workbooks are available, price TBD (but under \$20). To pre-order a workbook or for any questions, please call or text Barbara Finney at 703-405-2651 or email blynn56@verizon.net. We meet at 10:00 am on Tuesdays in classroom 1. There is room for you!!

Tuesday Ladies Dinner: Change of date and Time. The next dinner will be at Dixie Bones located at 13440 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge, on September 24, at 5:00 pm. We get together to enjoy a meal monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Please RSVP to teharpster@comcast.net.

Saturday Morning Men's Discussion: The following meetings are scheduled at 8:00 am, classroom #1, as we discuss Warren Wiersbe's commentary, "Be Alive":

September 20: No study as we meet for Men's Breakfast.

September 27: Read the introduction by Ken Baugh, "The Big Idea", pages 9-13; also, Chapter One, "God is Here!", pages 19-32; be prepared to discuss the questions on pages 33 and 34. In your bible, read John 1:1-51.

Books are available for \$10 from Alan Clark at (703)627-4725 or alan.clark1@verizon.net. Coffee and donuts are provided. Join

us and bring a friend or join us via [ZOOM](#). Meeting ID:827 91399156.

Saturday Men's Breakfast: The men will meet next time for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am Saturday, September 20, 2025, at Immanuel. An email containing a link to the digital sign-up for the breakfast will be sent to all IAC men the first week of September. Please use this digital system to register.

County Community Activities

Life First Spring Auction: Life First will hold its Annual Bake Sale and Auction on Friday September 26th at Dayspring Mennonite Church (5522 Catlett Rd. Midland, VA). The bake sale and food tent will open at 3:30, registration for the auction is at 4:00. The auction will begin at 5:00 pm. The reports are that the food is great and there are amazing items up for auction. If you have ANY items you may be interested in donating, please contact Dennis Reitz at 540-272-5306 or Cathleen Giannini at 703-851-0908.

Not receiving The Weekly? You can sign up on the IAC website by going to [here](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page and complete the subscribe form. If you need help, contact the Parish Administrator at office@iachurch.org.

Lost and Found

The found items are on the Usher's Table.

Building Usage

If you or your group would like to use a room at the church, please contact the office at office@iachurch.org or

tharpster@iachurch.org to schedule the date, time and room.
Unscheduled meetings cannot always be accommodated.