

FAQs Immanuel in the Coronavirus Crisis

Will we continue to have Sunday service?

Yes, as you may have seen on our website, for the past three Sundays we've had a video service that included the service bulletin. We've been experimenting with different formats and to a large degree what we do will be dictated by the Governor's stay at home order which extends to June 10. The governor earlier issued an order closing schools through the end of the academic year. We will respond accordingly if that date changes.

I understand the Immanuel office is closed. How do I reach someone in the office?

That's correct. With a focus on the safety and well-being of our staff and those who might visit the office, our office will remain closed for the time being. Phone calls to the office (703-494-7621) will transfer to the home of Tyra Harpster, Parish Administrator. In like manner, mail to the office is also being forwarded to her house. All donations and correspondence should be mailed to: Immanuel Anglican Church, 1529 Old Bridge Road, Ste 103, Woodbridge, VA 22192. Administrative functions requiring two or more people (telling, for example) are being done via Zoom teleconference.

I'm part of a group that was meeting on regular basis. Will those meetings continue?

For the time being, all Immanuel group meetings are suspended. There are several groups that have started up again via Zoom. We will be contacting all groups to see if they're interested in meeting in this manner. We've established an IT group to help set up these meetings and help ensure that Zoom is used appropriately.

What's the best way to stay in touch with what's going on at Immanuel?

Currently, we're providing weekly updates on our website and we will post, as necessary, notices regarding special events. We've also included on the website a Resources section with links to devotionals, information from the diocese, articles, and other materials we think you'll find useful. In addition, our weekly phone calls provide an opportunity to exchange information with a member of the phone ministry. We have a dedicated church email by which you can ask questions or share your views: IACFAQ@iachurch.org

Are we still helping out in the community?

Our children's ministry, through its backpack program, is providing food for pick-up at Cole's Elementary. Two parishioners, under the supervision of school authorities, hand out bags of food for the children. Earlier during the crisis, we delivered food and supplies to several in the homeless community.

What if I have an emergency?

You're encouraged to contact the office number, or Rich Garon, Senior Warden, or Deacon Sallie Rathbone. Their contact information is in the new parish directory which was mailed recently to every household.

What's happening with Immanuel Kids (Infant-5th grade)?

We want to encourage families to worship together at home Sunday mornings at 10 am. Immanuel Kids is sending out an email Saturdays that includes interactive ways to grow for all age groups. Children are also invited to join our group on Marco Polo where we are answering questions, and can pray for each other. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Byers mbyers@iachurch.org.

What's happening with our new building?

The current crisis has brought many things, including plans for our new building, to a temporary halt. The Move Team is monitoring the situation closely so we can develop appropriate next steps.

When will our new rector, Father Travis Hines, join us?

"Fr. Travis is scheduled to join us on or around June 1. Even if the current crisis somehow prevents his physical presence, he and his family remain committed to beginning their life with Immanuel in some form early June. Fr. Travis is eager to be with us and you can read his message to the congregation on our website."