



The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

October 26, 2025

Pastor's Corner

"Joy + Poverty = Generosity?!"

*We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for **in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.** For they gave according to their means, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints—and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ... **See that you excel in this grace also.** (2 Corinthians 8:1-7)*

This Sunday is the conclusion of our stewardship season, the day we're supposed to hand in our cards pledging the amount of our 2026 financial giving. **Honestly, I hesitated to write this reminder, my fingers hovering over the keyboard.** It felt callous to continue, as I considered our own "test of affliction" with the recent layoffs, the government shutdown, the furloughs, the rising cost of living, and the resulting sense of uncertainty and insecurity.

As I hesitated—and as I prayed—the Lord reminded me of the above words from Paul's letter to the church in Corinth. Paul boldly called the Corinthians to enter the flow of giving, because he had witnessed the Spirit's work in the lives of the Macedonians. Abundance of joy and extreme poverty overflowing into a wealth of generosity. **What a counter-intuitive, counter-cultural response to a "severe test of affliction."**

Why were the Macedonians capable of such a response? **The imaginations of these early Christians were dominated not by circumstantial fears, but by “the generosity of our Master, Jesus Christ.** Rich as he was, he gave it all away for us—in one stroke he became poor and we became rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9). They were so captivated by God’s generosity to them in Jesus, that it was to Jesus that they turned when the hard times hit. “They gave themselves first to the Lord.”

That’s my encouragement to each one of you this week, regardless of your circumstances. **Give yourself first to the Lord.** Entrust your finances, your fears, and your future to Jesus, thanking him for the many ways he enriches your life—the resources you do have, the relationships he’s given you, any measure of health or healing you’ve received, the immediate-and-eternal gift of life with God through his Son’s death and resurrection.

Next, ask the Father what grace he is giving to you with regard to your 2026 pledge. “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all contentment in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:7-8). **Write down on your pledge card the amounts that delight you.**

Then, as an expression of gratitude, trust, and partnership, bring the pledge card with you this Sunday, and offer it with praise and thanksgiving to the Lord.

May the Holy Spirit empower you to excel in this grace.

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

Missions Corner—Pastor Sallie's Sojourn

Dear Immanuel Family,

The following prayer by Thomas Merton, Pax Christi speaks my heart and is my gift to you.

O Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me, I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself. And the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believed that the desire to please You does in fact please you. I hope I have that desire in in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire to please You. And I know that if I do this You will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to make my journey alone. Amen.

Love and prayers to all!

Sallie

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

Oct 25	Magda Burial Service	11:00 am	Nave
Oct. 26	Confirmation Class	Nicene Creed	
	God the Holy Spirit; Resurrection		
		9:15-10:15am	CR4
Oct 31-Nov 2	Men's Retreat		
Nov. 2	Turn clocks back 1 hour		
Nov. 8	Chili Cook-off/Line Dancing	5-9:00PM	Nave
Nov. 9	Confirmation Class	9:15-10:15am	CR4
	The Lord's Prayer & Ten Commandments		
Nov. 16	Confirmation Class	9:15-10:15am	CR4
	The Church, the Sacraments, and Grace		
Nov. 22	Bishop's visit and teaching	9:30-noon	Nave
Nov. 23	Confirmation/Consecration of Baptismal Font		

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BP 4 Kids: Opportunity to Be Instruments of God's Love: Immanuel is blessed to be able to help 40 needy students at ML King Elementary with bags filled with breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks for the weekends. Thanks for your help: 1) Put a check in the offering labeled *Backpacks for Kids*. 2) Donations of food and /or cartons of milk (see list by the collection box in the hallway). 3) Help with packing meals. Next packing time is Weds., November 12, 12:30 p.m. Contact: Dean or Pat Tony patbtony@gmail.com.

Thank you, Immanuel family, for your donations for the inspiring book *Bells in the Air* written E.B. Butler. Thanks to Hugh Repogle for donating these children's adventure books to the Backpack 4 Kinds. Nearly \$200 was raised.

Men's Retreat: Men of Immanuel, mark your calendars! Our annual Men's Fall Retreat will be held October 31 – November 2 at beautiful Cacapon 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 October, we are collecting food for Thanksgiving (NO GLASS CONTAINERS!). Canned sweet potatoes/yams, canned pumpkin or fruit filling, pie crusts mix, evaporated milk, canned cranberry sauce, cans or packets of gravy, chicken or turkey stock, cornbread or biscuit mix, instant potatoes, stuffing mix and canned vegetables. Your generous support helps families in need enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving. The food cupboard is to the left as you enter the storage room located between classrooms 1 & 2.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Immanuel Kids: There's a reason lions are symbols of courage — even their roars (which can be heard up to five miles away) tell us how strong they are! And because of God's promises, we can be as strong and bold as lions, too. In this series, kids will learn important truths from the life of Daniel they'll want to shout (or roar!), like how we don't have to give up and don't have to feel alone. Instead, we can keep learning and not be afraid, even when we don't know the future. Why? Because God is with us!

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: The men will begin a study of Genesis on November 9, 2025. They meet from 7-8:30 pm in classroom 4. 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 October 27, at 5:00 pm at Mission BBQ located at 13890 Shoppers Best Way, Woodbridge. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: Continues Monday, October 27, we are in the seventh chapter, Matthew 14-16, 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, as we follow The Chosen, Season 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: The next dinner will be at Outback, located at 14580 Potomac Mills Road, Woodbridge, on November 18, 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": Getting to Know the Living Savior.

October 25: In commentary read Chapter Two "Learning About Jesus", pages 35-46; be prepared to discuss the questions on pages 47 and 48. In your bible, read John 2.

November 1: In commentary read Chapter Three "A Matter of Life and Death", pages 49-60; be prepared to discuss the questions on

pages 61 and 62. In your bible, read John 3.

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.

Women's Book Club: The next book club meeting will be on Tuesday, November 11th at 7 PM. Happy Veterans Day to those of you who served America! We are reading FORTY AUTUMNS by Nina Willner. We are meeting at the home of Jo Marohn, 22908 Roxana Ct. Manassas, VA. Please RSVP to Jo at 703-791-0675 or maryjo46@verizon.net. You can call Cathleen Giannini at 703-851-0908 or cragchat@gmail.com with any questions.

Men's Breakfast: The men will meet next time for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am Saturday, November 15, 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

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.

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