The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

November 29, 2026

Pastor's Corner
"Advent: Jesus is Coming"

Jesus is coming. That's the simple, disruptive, and hopeful meaning of Advent.

Simple: In Advent, our Church New Year begins with a focus on the end—**Jesus is coming again**. And we remember that **Christmas celebrates his first coming**—God the Son "*became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood*" (John 1:14, *The Message*.) And we receive the truth that between these two great comings, **Jesus comes to us daily**.

Disruptive: Whenever Jesus comes into the world, into a village, or into a person's life, **nothing remains the same**. Change happens, decisions are made, wrongs are confronted, seeds are planted, goodness interrupts—a response is required by every person and community visited by Jesus.

Hopeful: Jesus comes to give life. Whenever and wherever he is present, **the eternally renewing work of God is activated**, the Father's "*plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Jesus, things in heaven and things on earth*" (Ephesians 1:10).

Advent—which means "coming"—reawakens us to the coming of Jesus. Our call this season is to prepare our hearts "not only for the celebration of Christmas, but also for the many ways that Christ breaks into the world—past, present, and future" (Pennoyer & Wolfe). **Here are three ways the Immanuel family will participate in that preparation**:

- **Sunday Worship Services**: The liturgy, the colors, the Scriptures, and the music all change to orient us toward the coming of Jesus.
- **Wednesday Compline**: Every Wednesday during Advent we're offering an "Advent Oasis." Join us from 7pm-7:30pm for candlelight, quiet, liturgy, simple chanting, and contemplative reading of Scripture.
- **Advent Wreaths**: This Sunday, pick up a copy of Immanuel's "Advent Candle Liturgy," a guide for lighting candles at home, and a simple way to remain present to the True Story of this season. If you don't have an Advent wreath, you can pick up a kit as well.

Jesus is coming. This simple, disruptive, hopeful truth is at the heart of all of Scripture and all of history, and so should be awakened within our hearts as well. "*He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come Lord Jesus!*" (Revelation 22:21)

Your Pastor in Christ,

Travis +

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 at Immanuel Tuesday - Friday, in the Nave from 8:30am - 9:00am.

Midday prayer is offered Tuesday – Friday in the Nave at noon.

Visit iachurch.org/worship for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 28	Greening of the Church	12:30 pm Nave
Nov 29	First Sunday of Advent	
Dec 2	Advent I Compline	7-7:30 pm Nave
Dec 6	Angel Tree Gift Collection	
Dec 9	Advent II Compline	7-7:30 pm Nave
Dec 12	Ladies Coffee	IHOP 9 :30 am
Dec 16	Advent III Compline	7-7:30 pm Nave
Dec 20	Nativity and Tree Lighting	5:00 pm Nave
	Caroling	Nave
Dec 23	Advent IV Compline	7:-7:30pm Nave
Dec 24-25	Office Closed	
Dec 24	Christmas Services	5 :00 pm and 8:00 pm
Dec 27	First Sunday of Christmas	
	Holy Eucharist	8:00 am Nave
	Lessons and Carols	10:30 am Nave
Dec 28-Jan 1	Office closed	

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angel Tree Tag Sundays: We are grateful to be able to support our Beville Middle School community again this year by adopting families this Christmas season. As an individual, family, Life Group, or other group, consider selecting one (or more!) children to sponsor for gifts this holiday. Please read the sign-up instructions when you sign up so that we can be sure to match the gift to its intended recipient! Wrapped and tagged gifts will be returned by Sunday, Dec 6 for a blessing before being delivered to our families. Thank you for helping us share the love of Jesus with this school community who played such an important role in our church's history!

Food Cupboard Ministry: For the months of October & November we are collecting foods for Thanksgiving - canned yams, pumpkin or fruit filling, canned vegetables, pie crust mix, evaporated milk, cranberry sauce, cans or packets of gravy, chicken or turkey stock, cornbread or biscuit mix, instant potatoes and stuffing mix...you get the idea. The food cupboard is to the left as you enter the storage room located between classrooms 1 & 2.

Blessing Bags: Updated lists for the contents of the Blessing Bags are available. Please pick one and fill a bag for a woman in need. To date 44 purses for the ACTS Domestic Violence shelter have been delivered! Thank you to all who have donated to this ministry. Please contact Lee or Jennifer Roberds at (703) 298-5240 if you have any questions.

Backpacks 4 Kids: Every gift helps buy food for the ML King Elem. guidance counselors to place in the backpacks of children who otherwise would not have much to eat over the weekends. What's in a bag: Individual cartons of milk, pre-

packaged meals, breakfast or trail bars, fruit cups, mac and cheese, etc. *YOU are Invited to join our fun team packing food Weds., Dec. 16th, 12:30 p.m. @ Immanuel. *Please PRAY for students, teachers, and families to know how much the Lord Jesus loves them. As Matt. 25 states: *Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food…..*

Lighting of the Nativity and Christmas Tree with Caroling:
The Immanuel Parish will gather on the front lawn on December 20th, at 5 pm to usher in the Season of Christmas by lighting the outdoor Nativity. Then, we will move indoors to sing traditional carols celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please invite friends, family, and people in the community to join us. We hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Immanuel Kids: Children will be making advent wreaths on the first Sunday of Advent. Many families hit the road during the Christmas season, whether it's to visit loved ones or take a much-needed break. It's a time-honored tradition—one that might even be traced back to the first Christmas when a bright star dropped a pin on a special location to guide people to the birthplace of the savior. In this 4-week series, kids will learn:

God gives people to guide us.
Luke 1:5–25, 57–66; Matthew 3:1–6
God gives hope to guide us.
Luke 1:26–38; James 5:7–11
God gives a Savior to guide us.
Luke 2:1–20; Isaiah 7:10–16
God gives direction to guide us.
Matthew 2:1–12; Matthew 2:13–23

Youth Ministry: Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, Nov 29 (Thanksgiving holiday weekend.) However, we will celebrate the Christmas season on December 6th and December 13th. On the 6th we will go to Time Manassas, a game emporium that has many fast-paced and challenging rooms and physical activities to test your physical and mental stamina. The event is for youth group members only, as we won't be inviting friends on this trip. All who want to attend MUST turn in a permission slip, which the youth leaders will be handing out this Sunday. The slip will contain all times and pertinent information. On the 13th we will have our Christmas party, with games, treats, and a gift exchange. For more information, please text Rosemarie Fitzsimmons at 703-314-8348.

Sunday Night Men's Bible Study: The men meet each Sunday night except the third Sunday of the month which is reserved for Cruciform. The next meeting will be on November 29, in classroom 4 beginning at 7pm. The men are studying 1st, 2nd and 3rd John entitled "Abide" by Jen Wilkin. If you have questions, contact Mike Harpster here or Scott Finney here.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: December 7 will be our food and fellowship evening. We are on hiatus until January. Call or email Kathy Oravetz for details: 571-334-8786, koravetzdpt@gmail.com

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. The next dinner will be on November 30, 2026, at Red Lobster located at 2544 Prince William Pkwy, Woodbridge. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: Join this Bible study as we continue our study Melissa Spoelstra's study on *Angels: Finding Hope in God who Reigns Over Heaven and Earth*. *Angels* is a call to put your hope in the God of angel armies who reigns over heaven and earth. We meet Tuesdays at 10:00 am in Room 1, or you can click here to join via Zoom: Meeting ID: 859 5395 5885 Passcode: 642280. Contact Barbara Finney to pre-order your workbook ($22.00) or to ask any questions: 703-405-2651 or blynn56@verizon.net

Tuesday Ladies Dinner: The next dinner will be at Olive Garden located at144058 Gideon Drive, Woodbridge, on December 15, 2026, at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP here.

The Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study: The Men's Bible Study Meeting will NOT be meeting this coming Saturday. because of Thanksgiving weekend. The next Men's Bible Study Meeting will be on Saturday, December 5th at 8:00 AM in Classroom 1. We are studying "Romans for Everyone" by N.T. Wright and we will be discussing Romans 2:1-11. Books are available for $15. We start at 8:00 am in Room 1. Coffee and donuts are provided. Laughter is free. For more information, contact David Robertson at 703-470-1620 (text is best). Join us and bring a friend or join us via ZOOM here.

Saturday Morning Ladies Coffee: Once a month on the second Saturday, the Immanuel ladies will meet for coffee. The next meeting is December 12, 2026, at 9:30 am at Bob Evans Restaurant located at 14490 Smoketown Road, Woodbridge, VA. Please register here. For more information contact Monika Dew at 202-257-2348.

Men's Breakfast: The men will meet December 19, for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am. Come join in for a hot breakfast and fellowship

The Women's book club: always takes December off. Our next book club meeting will be on January 12, 2027, at 7 PM. We will meet at the home of Kathleen Harding, 3731 Russell Rd., Woodbridge. Our book for January is Cleopatra, A Life Story by Stacy Schaff. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Have a Holy and Blessed Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Finance update thru October 31, 2026

Operations

Revenue	$510,886.53
Expenses	$396,058.96
Net	$114,827.57

Building

Revenue	$227,956.21
Expenses	$ 84,389.65
Net	$143,566.56

The **Operations Fund** pays for salaries & admin costs, mission outreach, ministry expenses (such as children, youth and adult, altar guild, fellowship), and facility expenses (such as insurance, maintenance of property, equipment costs). The church is required to have a net income at the end of the year of $80,000, to meet the Debt Service Coverage Ratio in the loan documents. Currently the net income is a little higher than that because parishioners have paid their annual pledge in advance.

The **Building Fund** pays for the monthly mortgage. The monthly loan payment is $15,420. Only the interest portion of this expense is recorded on the income statement. The [principal portion is recorded on the balance sheet. Since all income is recorded on the income statement but only interest is posted against it, it appears as though there is excess money. The church has paid $72,558.29 in principal payments. The remainder is prepaid pledges.

County Community Activities

The Manassas Chorale: Mark your calendars for the December 5, 2026, performance of "A Measure of Excellence" by The Manassas Chorale. The program begins at 7:30 pm at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at the Hylton Center Box Office Tuesday-Saturday 10-6pm or by phone at 703-993-7759 or online at hyltoncenter.org.

Woodbridge Community Choir Christmas Concert: Saturday, December 5th @ 8:00 PM and Sunday, December 6th @ 3:00 PM. All concerts are at the A.J Ferlazzo Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22191 (near the Route 1 end of Cardinal Drive). Get in the spirit of the season and see some of our Immanuel family sharing their voices. All concerts are free!

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

Lost and found items can be found in the basket 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.

Please note the configuration pictures in each room on the wall near the light switch. After your meeting, please return the room to the arrangement in the picture without exception. All rooms are used for many different activities. Please return the tables to the closet at the end of the session.

Parking Lot

If you or your group need to leave vehicles in the parking lot overnight during an activity, please give the Parish Administrator the make, model and license number of the vehicle, and your departure and return dates and times. Vehicles left in the parking lot without notification are subject to towing at the owner's expense.