



# The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church  
Prince William County

March 15, 2026

## Pastor's Corner "Vestry Retreat"

This past weekend your Vestry gathered for an extended time of fellowship, prayer, learning, and discernment. We had four goals for the weekend: 1. Grow in unity. 2. Understand how God has spiritually equipped us. 3. Understand how God has personally met us. 4. Discern the will of God for Immanuel.

Friday evening, after good food and conversation, we had a teaching and discussion on the spiritual gifts articulated by Paul in his letters to the churches in Corinth and Rome (1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12). Then we shared the results of a spiritual gifts assessment we had each taken before the retreat. It is *very* encouraging to see how the Lord has equipped this particular Vestry for its leadership role this year. The gift of faith is particularly prominent, moving us to realize we are well equipped to move forward in faithful risk-taking and the implementation of the mission God has given Immanuel.

We also spent time Friday evening learning about godly listening and discernment, drawing on James 3:13-18, Philippians 2:1-11, and *Pursuing God's Will Together* by Ruth Haley Barton. We put what we learned into practice, seeking the Lord's guidance on whether to fill the vacant spot on the Vestry. We decided not to fill that spot, and instead to pray with intention for the future Vestry members God will call for 2027, with a specific hope for younger members of the congregation to answer that call.

Saturday morning began with more good food and prayer, then an extended time of sharing personal experiences of God's movement in our lives. Next, Scott Ankers joined us briefly to share a word from the Lord that he had received for Immanuel. Leaning on the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30 and a reading from *Hearing God* by Dallas Willard, Scott offered to the Vestry an invitation from Jesus to participate in "free-hearted collaboration" with him in a year that is to be characterized by "preparing for growth" and "active waiting."

That exhortation flowed into the remaining hours of the retreat in which we prayed, discussed, brainstormed, planned and articulated an initial understanding of our priorities for 2026. We continue to listen prayerfully with regard to these priorities, and will revisit them at our March Vestry meeting, after which we will share further details with the congregation.

In addition to praying throughout each session, we furthered our union with Jesus and each other as we prayed "The Office" together – Compline, Morning Prayer, and Midday Prayer – and concluded in sharing Holy Communion.

Next week you'll read in this space more about our retreat as I invite our Vestry to share their reflections. Please continue praying for each member of our Vestry, and our Vestry as a whole, as we listen together for the voice of Jesus, guided by the Spirit, resting in our Father's embrace.

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 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](http://iachurch.org/worship) for more details.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 1-29	Baby Bottle Campaign	9-10:30 & 11:45-1 Narthex
March 15	Realm Training	9:15-10:30 am CR4 12:15-1:45pm Nave
Mar 18	Compline	8:00-8:30 pm Nave
Mar 25	Compline	8:00-8:30 pm Nave
March 29	Palm Sunday	8:00 am Nave 10:30 am Nave
April 2	Maundy Thursday/with nursery	7:00 pm Nave
April 3	Stations of the Cross Good Friday Service/ with nursery	Noon Outside 7:00 pm Nave
April 4	Contemplation and Rite of Reconciliation	9-noon Nave
April 5	Easter Vigil	8:00 pm Nave
	Easter Sunrise Service	7:00 am Outside
	Easter Service	10:30 am Nave

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Baby Bottle Campaign:** As an Abundant Life Church that supports Life First in rescuing babies from abortion and spreading the Gospel to the parents, we annually participate in the Baby Bottle Campaign. Because of Immanuel's generous giving, loving and compassionate heart and through your joyful offerings last year we finished 3rd amongst all the Abundant Life Churches. We ask you to stop by the Baby Bottle Campaign station in the Narthex to sign up and take a baby bottle (or 2). Place your spare change inside (dollars and checks are OK too!). Please return the baby bottle (empty or full) anytime. The Baby Bottle Campaign "officially" ends on Palm Sunday, March 29th. If you have any questions please contact Paul Giannini, [pjgiannini13@gmail.com](mailto:pjgiannini13@gmail.com).

**BP4 KIDS (Backpacks for Kids):** This ministry provides weekend bags of food placed in the backpacks of children in cooperation with school guidance counselors at ML King Elementary. To help with food, you may consider ordering: <https://www.amazon.com/Hormel-Compleats-Chicken-Alfredo-Ounce> (other options for Compleats are available), or individual cartons of shelf milk, or individual size boxes of cereal. Please bring these to the church building, and we will store them until the next packing date. Thank you for all your generous help. You make a difference in the lives of children! To be informed about our next packing event and/or for more information, please contact Dean or Pat Tony [patbtony@gmail.com](mailto:patbtony@gmail.com)

**The Food Cupboard Ministry:** For the month of March, we are collecting 2-pound bags (no larger) of flour and sugar. Many families in PWC are struggling and your support for this ministry can make all the difference. Every donation helps restore dignity, hope, and stability. The food cupboard is to the left as you enter the storage room located between classrooms 1 & 2.

**Blessing Bags:** Thank you to all who are supporting this ministry. The first twelve bags have been delivered to ACTS! What are

Blessing Bags? They are donated purses given to women in need at the ACTS Women's Shelter in Dumfries, VA. All necessary items can be found on a list on the side of the collection box, along with tags of Immediate needs required to complete unfinished purses. If you have questions, would like to help, or your small group would like to assemble purses, please contact Lee or/ and Jennifer at Lee: Home- 703) 590-7918 or Cell- 703) 298-5240. Jennifer: Cell- 571) 427- 8713

## COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

**Register now for Immanuel's Women's Retreat!** April 24-26 at White Sulfur Springs, Mann's Choice, PA. Our speaker, Dr. Erika Moore, will lead us through Ezekiel's four visions, offering us reasons for hope, reassuring us of God's power, presence, and faithfulness to his promises, even in the most disappointing and confusing circumstances. Paperless (and SIMPLE) registration is available on Realm. Feel free to bring guests! As always, single occupancy rooms are VERY limited and will be first come, first served. Questions or help registering can be directed to Barbara Finney: 703-405-2651 [blynn56@verizon.net](mailto:blynn56@verizon.net) or Taira Oravetz: 703-963-8812 [tairaorevetz@gmail.com](mailto:tairaorevetz@gmail.com). Reservation deposits (\$100.00) are due by March 15.

**Immanuel Kids:** Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news, Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This series will remind kids that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party! In this 5-week series, kids will learn that I'm invited to believe in Jesus, love like Jesus does, experience Jesus' miracles, ask Jesus for help, and worship Jesus.

**Youth Group:** Middle and high school students are invited to Youth Group each week. We meet on Second Sundays at 6:00 PM, and on all other Sundays from 12:00- 1:30 PM. For more

information, contact [mbyers@iachurch.org](mailto:mbyers@iachurch.org).

**Sunday Night Men's Bible Study:** The men will meet March 15, 2026, to continue their study of Genesis. They meet from 7-8:30 pm in classroom 4. If you have any questions, see Mike Harpster ([MikeHarpster@comcast.net](mailto: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. The next dinner will be on March 16, 2026 at Red Robin, located at 14090 Worth Ave, Woodbridge. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

**Women's Monday Night Bible Study:** We are studying, "Cold-Case Christianity" by J. Warner Wallace. The participants' guide can be found here [Cold-Case Christianity Participant's Guide: A Homicide Detective Investigates the Claims of the Gospels: Wallace, J. Warner: 9781434711441: Amazon.com: Books](#). The group meets on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. via ZOOM Please contact Kathy Oravetz at 571-334-8786 or [koravetzdpt@gmail.com](mailto:koravetzdpt@gmail.com) for more information and the ZOOM link.

**Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study:** Join this lovely, caring group at 10:00 am in Classroom #1 as we dive into Isaiah using the Melissa Spoelstra book and video: "Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting God More". We'll unpack Isaiah's words to reveal that you can trust God more than your own human effort or the counterfeits the world suggests. You won't be striving harder but instead trusting more deeply in the Faithful One who is so worthy of our utter dependence. In Him you'll find the comfort and peace you need to sustain you. Contact Barbara Finney at [blynn56@verizon.net](mailto:blynn56@verizon.net) or 703-405-2651 for workbooks or more information.

**Tuesday Ladies Dinner:** The next dinner will be at Gorgios located at 4394 Kevin Walker Dr., Montclair, on March 17, 2026 at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP to [Teharpster@comcast.net](mailto:Teharpster@comcast.net), so

reservations can be made.

**Saturday Morning Men's Discussion:**

**March 14.** Read Chapter 12 in Wiersbe's commentary, "Christ and the Crisis", pp. 183-196 and meditate on the questions on pp. 197-198. Also read Chapter 12 in the Gospel of John.

**March 21:** There is no meeting of the Men's Saturday Bible Discussion Group but join us for the Men's breakfast.

We start at 8:00 am in Room 1. Coffee and donuts are provided. Laughter is free. For more information, contact Alan Clark on 703-627-4725. Join us and bring a friend or join us via [ZOOM](#). Meeting ID:827 91399156.

**Women's Book Club:** The next Women's Book Club meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14th at the home of Alice Cade The meeting starts at 7 pm. Alice's address is 12907 Valleywood Dr Woodbridge. We are reading, THE FROZEN RIVER by Ariel Lahon. Please call Cathleen Giannini at 703-851-0908 or email at [cragchat1@gmail.com](mailto:cragchat1@gmail.com) with any questions. Let Alice know if **you will be attending at 703-283-4358 or alicecade0@yahoo.com**

**Men's Breakfast:** The men will meet March 21, for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am. Come join in for a hot breakfast and fellowship.

## County Community Activities

Put your notice here

**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](mailto: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](mailto:office@iachurch.org) or [tharpster@iachurch.org](mailto: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.

### Parking Lot

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