



The Weekly

Immanuel Anglican Church
Prince William County

August 2, 2026

Pastor's Corner *An Extended Sabbath*



A favorite author of mine named Wendell Berry has a collection of sabbath poems entitled *This Day*. In the introduction he writes,

[In the woods or along the streams], on the best of these sabbath days, I experience a lovely freedom from expectations – other people's and also my own. I go free from the tasks and intentions of my workdays, and so my mind becomes hospitable to unintended thoughts: to what I am very willing to call inspiration. The poems come incidentally or they do not come at all. If the muse leaves me alone, I leave her alone. To be quiet, even wordless, in a good place is a better gift than poetry.

A lovely freedom of expectations...a mind hospitable to unintended thoughts...quiet in a good place. These are

several of the gifts I received on my extended sabbath, along with time with my wife and daughters, slow mornings, rekindling old friendships in Austin (and eating Texas brisket), a rainy day family hike through an old forest in the Pacific Northwest, reading whatever brought me joy, learning to cast a reel and to smoke ribs, and space to listen to Jesus without an agenda.

I am very grateful to you, my Immanuel family, for making possible this longer-than-usual vacation. Deb Tomchek, of course, led well in my absence, and the staff, vestry, and many volunteers cared well for the needs of our congregation. Thank you all!

As I reenter the good life of loving and leading you, I'm encouraged by what we're flowing into: Vacation Bible School, Rock the Block, Life Groups, the deeper discipleship of giving, fall classes on Deborah and on Confirmation, as well as the regular rhythms of our worship and life together. Summer nears its end, yet our participation in the Refuge, Reconciliation, and Renewal from Jesus continues.

And if you yourself have not created space for a regular sabbath where for at least a few hours you can "go free from the tasks and intentions of your workdays," I encourage you to do so. Our Creator calls such a space holy (Genesis 2:1-3), and indeed commands that we enter into the trust-deepening freedom of weekly rest (Exodus 20:8-11).

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

August 11	Rock the Block		6-7:30 MLK
August 29	Ladies Coffee	IHOP	10:00 AM

COMING THIS FALL

Adult Class	Study led by Julie Walsh
Life Groups	Sign-ups coming soon
Confirmation Classes	Sign-ups coming soon
Ladies Coffee	

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Cupboard Ministry: For the month of August we are collecting canned fruit, canned vegetables and canned soups. 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.

MISSION TRIPS

Kevin Robertson is heading to the Poconos for Joni and Friends Family Retreats (Aug 2-7) to serve families affected by disability. He asks for your prayers for himself, other volunteers, the staff and families during that week.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS



ROCK THE BLOCK is from 6:00-7:30 pm on **Tuesday, August 11**. Sign up for the opportunity to bless Martin Luther King Elementary- School students with new backpacks, school supplies, socks, children's books, DVDs, and more. Mission partners are needed to help with distribution as well as transport items to ML King Elementary, 13224 Nickleson Dr, Woodbridge. Our VBS kids and others will be collecting monetary donations along with gently-used books and family-friendly DVDs. For more information, please contact Dean or Pat Tony patbtony@gmail.com. Volunteer sign up click [here](#) or use QR code.



Immanuel Kids: A successful Vacation Bible School is behind us, and we are looking forward to VBS Sunday, on August 2. Please join us at the 10:30 service for the recap and celebration of the epic journey to find God's Kingdom.

Youth Ministry: Middle and high school students are invited to Second Sunday @ 6 PM on August 9 for an evening of fun, fellowship, and Bible study. Be sure to save the date for our Youth Family BBQ on August 30 as we kick off the new ministry year! For more information, contact mbyers@iachurch.org.

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 August 2. They will continue the 8-week series viewing a DVD authored by J.D. Greear. Men facing the cultural challenges of today will connect to the ancient wisdom of Daniel and learn that the power to make a difference is found in the commitment to be different. Beginning at 7pm in classroom 4 the time will be split between Listening, Discussing and Fellowship concluding by 8:30 pm. If you have any questions, see MikeHarpster@comcast.net or ScottSFinney@verizon.net.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study: We have considered such questions as "How do the father's words in 9:24 echo your own feelings at times?" (Mark 9:24 "I do believe, help me overcome my unbelief!"); "What have you learned from this passage (Mark 9:2-29) about what to do when you face problems and crises?" All ladies are welcome to join us as we study the Gospel of Mark using N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides- MARK. We are on Mark 9:30-50 and chapter 11 of the study guide. You don't need to be reading the study guide ahead and you may join at any time. Monday evening gatherings 7-8:30 p.m. via ZOOM. Please contact Kathy Oravetz at 571-334-8786 or koravetzdpt@gmail.com for more information and the ZOOM link.

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 August 3, El Paso located at 3031 Golansky Blvd. Woodbridge. New attendees are always welcome so come and join us and bring someone with you.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: Join this caring group at 10:00 am in Classroom #1 to study 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. Contact Barbara Finney at blynn56@verizon.net or 703-405-2651 for workbooks or more information.

Tuesday Ladies Dinner: The next dinner will be at Montclair Family restaurant, located at 17001 Dumfries Rd., Dumfries, on August 18, 2026, at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP to Teharpster@comcast.net.

Saturday Morning Men's Discussion: The group is taking a break for the summer. Discussions will resume on September 14, 2026. Please come prepared to recommend the next study series. For more information contact Gary Grey at: gary8638@gmail.com or 703-966-2812.

Saturday Morning Ladies Coffee: Once a month the Immanuel ladies will meet for coffee. The first meeting is August 29, 2026, at 10:00 am at IHOP on Hoadly Road. For more information contact Monika Dew at 202-257-2348.

Men's Breakfast: The men will meet August 15, for the monthly breakfast at 8:00am. Come join in for a hot breakfast and fellowship

Cruciform: Join the men of Immanuel and the community on August 16, 2026, for a deep dive into men's decision-making paths at Cruciform Crossroad Conversations - a journey of self-discovery and growth. Real talk. Real faith. Real growth. Participate in in-depth conversations about the challenges men are navigating in today's world. Bring a friend. Open to all men from all churches - 18+. Food included. Stay tuned for the next meeting date.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB: I hope any women who love to read have been reading some good books this summer. It is that time again!!! We will meet to determine this year's reading list on August 1, at 7 PM. We will meet at Cathleen Giannini's home, 14823 Courtlandt Heights Rd. Woodbridge. Come prepared with 3 selections to present to the group with your best sales pitch. Try to make one a non-fiction book, but any suggestions are welcome. We have newcomers to the church so we would love to have you come. We are an informal group and welcome you at all meetings or just the ones you like the sound of the book. Please call Cathleen Giannini with any questions or to let me know if you are coming at 703-851-0908 or cragchat1@gmail.com. If you are interested but unable to attend the meeting but would like a schedule for the year sent to you, let me know. SEE YOU SOON!!!!

Financial Update thru June 30, 2026

Operations

Revenue	\$315,340.85
Expenses	<u>\$252,342.15</u>
Net	\$ 62,998.70

Building

Revenue	\$113,072.41
Expenses	<u>\$ 51,573.78</u>
Net	\$ 61,498.63

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 building fund pays for the monthly mortgage, that loan amount due monthly is \$15,420.

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.

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. If your group is using the hallway space and set up tables, 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 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.

NOTES