

Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings – the heart of our life together

10:00 Worship for All Ages – Sanctuary & via Zoom

Sunday, June 6

Scripture: Genesis 3:8-15, Psalm 130, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35

Our gospel lesson this Sunday finds Jesus being compared to Satan and then in the following paragraph, Jesus, in the presence of his biological mother and siblings, claims all believers as his family. In the Old Testament lesson from Genesis, after eating the forbidden fruit, Adam and Eve get caught and are punished. The Psalm is a prayer for help. In Second Corinthians, Paul speaks of the power and effect the Spirit has on the lives of the faithful saying, “So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.”

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper on this Sunday.

Sunday, June 13

Scripture: Ezekiel 17:22-24, Psalm 92:1-4 and 12-15, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17, Mark 4:26-34

As we move through June and the Sundays after Pentecost, the prophet Ezekiel in the Hebrew scriptures, using an image of cedar tree, tells us God offers us a message of hope and growth. The gospel lesson has us reading the parables of the Growing Seed and the Mustard Seed. The Psalm is a song of praise and Second Corinthians teaches us what it means to live by faith.

Sunday, June 20

Scripture: Job 38:1-11, Psalm 107:1-3 and 23-32, 2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-41

The third Sunday in June will find us celebrating a special Sunday as we acknowledge Father’s Day and celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism for Pastor Dale and Diana’s niece Katelynn’s son Finnegan. The lectionary scripture lessons are about Jesus calming a storm by simply saying, “Be quiet and be still,” and, in the book of Job, the Lord sarcastically answers Job’s questioning by saying, “Who do you think you are?” The Psalm is a praise for God’s goodness and in the epistle lesson, despite the harsh challenges of being a faithful Christian, Paul testifies the Spirit empowers the faithful to live a righteous life.

Again, please note there will be a baptism and many guests with us on this Sunday.

Sunday, June 27

Scripture: Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 or Lamentations 3:22-33, Psalm 30, 2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43

There are several books of faith which were written in the time between the Old and New Testament. These “intertestamental” writings are usually not included in our Bibles, but when they are, they are labeled the Apocrypha. Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Orthodox communities are more likely to use these fourteen books for instruction and devotions, however Protestants from time to time will use them as well.

One of our lectionary readings today is found among these writings. In Wisdom of Solomon, we are told God created us to live, and the creatures and generative forces created by God are wholesome, and opposing life, death entered the world through the devil’s envy. In the Old Testament book of Lamentations, we begin with, “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” And ends with, “For God does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.” Paul, in the Second Letter to the Corinthians, encourages the members of the church in Corinth to be generous, in much the same way as Jesus, who gave up his riches and life for the sake of others. Finally, in the gospel of Mark, we are offered the account of Jesus healing of the woman who had hemorrhages for twelve years, placed in the middle of the story of Jesus healing Jairus’ daughter.

Pastor’s Message

As many of you already know, Immanuel is relaxing many of its COVID social distancing protocols. Dorchester County is reporting far fewer active cases and deaths, but at last report is still below the state average for vaccination rate. The Council and I look forward to even fewer restrictions and our first vaccination poll, taken the last Sunday of May, reported encouraging numbers about the vaccination rate of our congregation.

Immanuel has done well in the last year. To the best of my knowledge no COVID transmissions have been traced to our worship services. Furthermore, we have offered a worship service, either in-person or virtually, every Sunday since COVID threatened our County. A couple of them may not have been pretty, but I believe we have become more proficient as time has passed and I look forward to including some kind of virtual presence for our worship and meetings in the days ahead.

On a personal note, I recently learned 50% of transplant patients often develop no antibodies after getting vaccinated and that I am one of those who is not protected despite my getting the Pfizer vaccination in February and March. I have been in touch with my Nephrologist at Hopkins and will be temporarily and safely suspending one of my anti-rejection meds and getting the J&J vaccination this week. I will get retested soon and hopefully be walking around confidently unmasked.

The summary of our new COVID protocols can be found below. On behalf of myself and the Council, thank you for your support in the last year caring for each other and supporting our church in a most challenging time.

Peace, Pastor Dale

COVID Protocols for Immanuel, effective May 23

On Sunday evening, May 23, the Council of Immanuel met to discuss the lifting and relaxing of COVID related social distancing restrictions we have been practicing in our building. Eight Council members and Pastor Dale were present.

We took into consideration the most recent:

- CDC guidelines on the effectiveness of the vaccines and the newest mask guidelines.
- Dorchester County Health Department reports of active COVID cases, which are going down, and Dorchester County Vaccination rates, which are relatively low (currently below 50%).
- State of Maryland guidelines on social distancing and public gatherings.
- Several other resources regarding singing and virus transmission in closed spaces.

The Council Has voted to:

- Eliminate temperature checks upon entering the building.
- Allow masks to be removed while sitting in the pews. They would ask that masks be worn upon entering the building and when not in the pews.
- After much discussion, the Council voted to trust everyone to social distance properly in the pews. We will remove the ribbons and noodles and all pews will open.
- When we have ushers, who are able and willing, we will hand out bulletins personally.
- When we have ushers, who are able and willing, we will collect the offering in the pews.
- The Spiritual Council will discuss the use of Zoom. We will continue its use, but very likely the cameras will be placed differently, and the PowerPoint presentation will be minimized or discontinued, and the screen in the front of the church will be removed.
- When proper supervision is assured, we will allow the nursery to be opened. Currently we recommend, as the schools do, for children 3 years and older to wear masks.
- We will also be anonymously polling worship attendees in the coming weeks regarding their vaccination status. We will be asking those attending worship each week to complete a simple form. It will ask if you are vaccinated, not vaccinated, or if you prefer not to answer. No names will be required, and it will be collected anonymously. This will allow the Council to make more informed decisions regarding our worship.

Finally, despite a great desire to resume singing, the decision to do so, was tabled. Many resources, including our local Health Department describe singing indoors as inherently risky at this time.

Immanuel has maintained a steady and safe presence in the days since COVID came to town and to the best of our knowledge, has not been involved in the spread of the virus. For this the Council and Pastor Dale give thanks and seek to safely return to the full expression of our congregational life.

Singing (tabled for now)

Poll attendees (Congregational members) regarding vaccination status – 4 weeks

Explain decision making process

8 Council and Dale attending

VAVCATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The CE Board has decided to do VBS a little differently this year. We are going to do an hour a night each Friday for three Fridays; The dates are July 9, July 16 and July 23. More on this later.



IMMANUEL HONORED OUR GRADUATES JUNE 6, 2021



Amanda Grace Bair, daughter of William & Kimberly Bair, graduated from Cambridge South-Dorchester High School on May 26, 2021. Amanda was honored with being CSD's Salutatorian for the class of 2021. While at CSD, Amanda was a long-distance swimmer and sprinter on CSD's swim team. She plays piano and clarinet and has participated in several bands over the years. She enjoys ice skating, creative writing and listening to music. Amanda is also very active in Immanuel's youth group. She will be attending the University of Maryland-College Park where she will major in General

Biology with a minor in creative writing. She has a sister, Alexia, and a brother, Collin. Amanda also has three cats – Oreo, Deuce and Socks.



Jaden Windsor Kozak, son of Deana & Mark Kozak graduated from Cambridge South-Dorchester High School on May 26, 2021. Jaden participated in Varsity Soccer and Lacrosse. He had the lead in the Senior Class play "1984". He was also a member of the National Honor Society as well as being a member of Immanuel UCC. He plans to attend Anne Arundel Community College to pursue a career in sports management. He has a brother, Evan.



Lachlan Michael "Lake" Malkus, son of Chad & Thom Malkus graduated May 26 from Cambridge South-Dorchester High School.. Lake has worked steadily in many local restaurants since he was 14, including Ocean Odyssey, Bistro Poplar, and currently Portside Seafood. He has volunteered for many organizations including Cambridge Main Street, the Sailwinds Kite Festival, and the cold weather shelter. He enjoys amateur investing and learning about the world of crypto currency. He recently had the role of "Big Brother" in the Senior Class Play "1984". He has played lacrosse and soccer since his youth, and he has been best friends with fellow Immanuel member Jaden Kozak since they were toddlers. Lake has earned several academic scholarships and will be attending Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana this fall. He will be studying Secondary Education & History, as he hopes to teach abroad for the International School when he graduates from Montana. He has a brother, Fynn Malkus, and a dog named Ghost.

Congratulations and good luck in your future endeavors!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June Birthdays

Jock Luthy	6/4
Patti Cannon	6/4
Tara Cannon	6/5
Abby Spillman-Wise	6/6
Michal Dixon	6/6
Stacy Seymour	6/10
Sherry Todd	6/10
Sandy Dodson	6/12
Michael Giese	6/13
Emily Robbins	6/13
Charlotte Hanson	6/14
Beau Cherry	6/14
Frank Spillman	6/17
Vivian Anderson	6/19
Susan Hutson	6/22

June Anniversaries

Trudi & Donald Jones, Jr.	6/3
Patsy & Don Creighton	6/7
Sarah & Michael Bass	6/15
Kelly & Josh Dodson	6/18
Terry & Bill Malkus	6/19
Tammy & Danny Luthy	6/20
Sherry & Adam Todd	6/24

BIRTHDAYS (CONTINUED)

Josh Dodson	6/22
Helen Krom	6/27
Amy Robbins	6/27
John Ashton	6/27
Parker Dodson	6/30
Alasdair Campbell	6/30

Your Staff

The Rev. Dale Krotee	Pastor
Janice Haller	Church Secretary
J. Curtis White	Choir Director/Organist
Lynne Breil & Tina Lyte-Davis	Pianist
Stephanie Carmine	Nursery Care Provider

Your Church Council

Bill Bair – President

Lynne Browne	Cassie Burton
Kristina Luthy	Jock Luthy
Terry Melius	George Barnett
Robin Burton	Jack Breil
	Sherry Hoefler

Church Contact Information

Office Hours - Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 410-228-4640 FAX: 410-221-6419

E-mail: info@immanuelucc.com;

pastor@immanuelucc.com

IMMANUEL PRAYER LIST: You are invited to remember these people in prayer

Members of Immanuel:

Norma Lee BURTON, health issues, at home
Wells David DODSON, son of Scott & Amy Dodson
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Jean FOXWELL, health issues
John McWILLIAMS, friend of Wallace & Sandy Dodson, Lung Cancer
Nancy SIMS, health issues, assisted living in Silver Spring, MD

Friends of Immanuel Church:

Terry BRANNOCK, friend of Robin Burton, health issues
Aubree BURTON, daughter of Dennis & Kathy Katulis, health issues
Shirley BURTON, mother of Robin Burton, health issues
Richard & Janice GRACE, nephew of Bette Adams, brain cancer
John IPPOLITO, friend of Beverly Shelly, health issues
Greg LEONARD, nephew of Dave & Kim Leonard, ALS
John LOWENSEN, father of Diana Krotee, health issues
Lillian LOWENSEN, mother of Diana Krotee, health issues
Robert MEDURA, friend of Beverly Shelly, health issues
Emma Jean SELLERS, grandmother of Kristina & Garrett Luthy,
at Health South
John VALENSTEIN, friend of Wallace & Sandy Dodson, ALS

Other Prayer Requests:

Guidance in Immanuel's leaders for 2021 and beyond
The leadership of Immanuel church, the need for people willing to
serve to do the business of the church.
Our adopted child, Royer Gaeel Arroyo Sulca, from Peru
Dorchester County Public Schools
Children at the border; Those shot in our country
Those suffering from natural disasters
Those dealing with COVID-19 including some area churches
For the healing of our nation, both physical & emotional

Members and Friends Serving in Our Armed Forces:

Christopher ANTENEN, U. S. Air Force, now stationed in the USA,
grand nephew of the late Jean Haddaway
Jake CREIGHTON, U.S. Army, stationed in South Korea
Buddy HAYDEN, friend of Robin Burton, U.S. Air Force
Harley E. JONES, friend of Robin Burton, U. S. Marines
Keagan ROSARIO, U.S. Air Force, friend of Kim Leonard, now
stationed in the U.S.
Matthew L. RUBLE, II, U.S. Army, nephew of Michal Dixon,
stationed at Fort Polk, LA
Jason T. WARDEN, Marines, nephew of Michal Dixon,
stationed in Havelock, North Carolina

The Lord's Laughter

"The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing,"
Psalm 2:4

Humor for the hard times

Pastor Marty Toepke-Floyd of First United Methodist Church, Redfield, SD, serves rural churches in the Dakotas. One Sunday morning the children's message focused on Matthew 5:6 – "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

After showing the congregation some crackers, candy, snacks, an orange and an apple he had brought with him, Rev. Toepke-Floyd asked them, "What are you hungry for?"

"I'm hungry for a banana," a man exclaimed.

"Sorry, I don't have one," the pastor said.

Just then the 80-year-old organist called out, "Here, pastor. Catch!" and to his surprise, she threw a banana to him.

"God will provide," the pastor said, tossing the banana to the happy man, as the entire congregation burst into laughter.

The organist later told the pastor that she had brought the banana to church with the intention of eating it.

"God provided a great children's message that morning," the pastor said.



"My friend Jim was so allergic to so many things – cats, dogs, animals – that he did not even let some of his friends in the house. But he wanted an elegant parrot, and he bought one for \$1,000 in a Chicago pet shop.

"After a few days, he discovered that he was allergic to the parrot, and phoned the pet shop manager to arrange returning it. The manager replied that he would be happy to give him \$500 for the parrot.

"Jim replied, 'But I paid \$1,000 for the parrot just a few days ago.'

"The manager said, 'Yes, but now it's a used parrot.'"

– Prof.-Emeritus Peter Kobrak
Kalamazoo, MI



Jewish humor, via George Goldtrap, Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL:

A Jewish boy comes home from school and tells his mother he has a part in a play.

"What part is it?" she asks.

"I play the part of the husband," he replies.

The mother scowls and says, "Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part."



The doctor called Mrs. Cohen and said, "Mrs. Cohen, your check came back."

"So did my arthritis," Mrs. Cohen replied.



"My wife and I always hold hands when we go downtown," Abe Goldberg told a friend. "If I let go, she shops."



The theme for last year's Vacation Bible School at the Evangelical Free Church in Boone, IA, was: "Lego and let God."

– via Rev. Dale Schoening
Madrid, IA



God's kids say & do the funniest things

A friend of the family was babysitting 4-year-old Elizabeth and had to take her to a funeral for a dear friend at a Catholic church.

When they entered the church, there were three Knights of Columbus wearing their feathered hats, capes, and swords. Elizabeth stared at them intently and asked her babysitter, "Nana, what are those pirates doing here in church?"

Trying to keep from laughing, the babysitter explained, "No, baby, these are not pirates, they are really nice men."

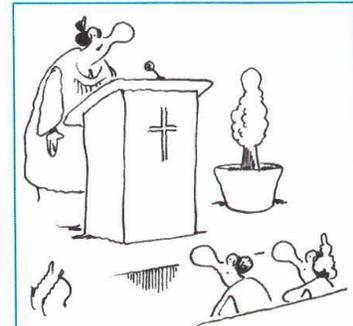
When they sat in a pew, the procession of 10 Knights, carrying swords, began walking up the aisle.

Elizabeth, eyes wide, said, "Nana, are you *sure* these are nice men?"

– Columnist Smiley Anders
Baton Rouge (LA) Advocate



"What soap is to the body,
laughter is to the soul."
– Yiddish proverb



"In honor of the late doctor, I'll start my eulogy an hour after the scheduled time."

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Fred Guttierrez of Lacombe, LA, told this story to columnist Smiley Anders of the *Baton Rouge Advocate*:

"My wife and I were caring for Olivia, a beautiful 4-year-old girl, while her single mom worked. One Sunday, we took her to Mass at St. John of the Cross. There were two celebrants: a priest of average stature and a deacon who was somewhat overweight.

"When the priest began his homily, the deacon went to sit on the other side of the altar. Soon Olivia began fidgeting and standing tall in the pew to look around in front of us. I asked if anything was wrong.

"I'm looking for the fat Jesus," she replied.

– via Jeff Totten
Lake Charles, LA



Bloopers that gnash the teeth

One Sunday, the pastor went into the pulpit wearing a pair of new bifocals. The reading portion of the glasses improved his vision considerably, but the top portion of the glasses didn't work so well. In fact, he was experiencing dizziness every time he looked through them.

He explained to the congregation that the new glasses were causing problems. "I hope you will excuse my continually removing my glasses," he said. "You see, when I look down I can see fine, but when I look at you, it makes me sick."

– via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft
Dover, DE

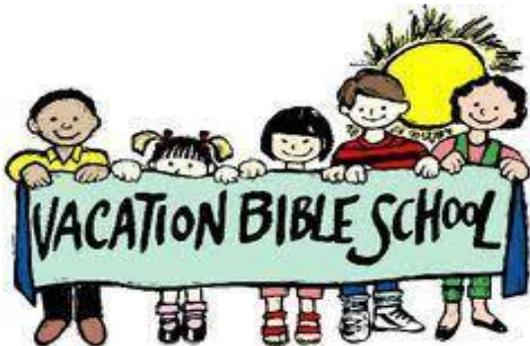




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Vacation Bible School
July 9, 16 and 23