IMMANUEL IMAGES October 2026

Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings – the heart of our life together

10:00 Worship for All Ages – Sanctuary

Sunday, October 4: Proper 22
Scripture: Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:7-15, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46
Using the metaphor of a vineyard for God's people, the prophet Isaiah shares a love song of the owner for his vineyard that ends with a word of judgement. In the psalm, again, using a metaphor of a vine, Israel acknowledges the role God has had in its deliverance from Egypt, planting in their own promised land, and their punishment for unfaithfulness. It ends though with a plea for protection. We visit a vineyard in the gospel of Matthew too. In this story, the Parable of the Wicked Tenants, the workers at the vineyard refuse to pay the owner what he is due when the crop is harvested and kill all his servants and even his son.

Sunday, October 11: Proper 23
Scripture: Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14
There is a lot of praise and celebration in our lessons this Sunday. We will likely read the familiar words of the 23rd Psalm as well as the words of praise and joy for the people's deliverance from oppression, found in Isaiah. Paul, in his epistle, offers encouraging words, saying to the church in Philippi, "Rejoice in the Lord always, again, I say rejoice." The celebrations continue with a wedding feast in Matthew. Unfortunately, not all the guests appreciated their invitation and many of the guests refuse to attend. The host then invites guests off the street.

Sunday, October18: Proper 24
Scripture: Isaiah 45:1-7, Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13), I Thessalonians 1:1-10,
Matthew 22:15-22
Our gospel lesson begins with Pharisees challenging Jesus, asking him about taxes and allegiance to the state. The prophet Isaiah shares the story of how God uses Cyrus, a non-Israelite, to send a message to the world that God alone is the creator and controller of the world. The psalm is a song of praise, with the lyrics, "Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord, all the earth." In I Thessalonians, Paul writes complimentary words of introduction at the beginning of the letter.

Sunday, October 25: Proper 25
Scripture: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18, Psalm 1, I Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew 22:34-46
On our final Sunday in October, the Sunday nearest to Reformation Day, we may acknowledge Reformation Sunday. The scheduled readings for the day include a reading from the Torah, or one of the five books of the law, Leviticus. In this book, God tells his people what he expects of them, ending with the words, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The Psalm also speaks of God's laws as it offers a comparison of the righteous, who are like trees growing by the streams of water, and the wicked, who are like chaff that the wind blows away. In the gospel, and in response to a lawyer

asking Jesus what the greatest law is, Jesus says, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and challenges them to recognize him as the Messiah. In I Thessalonians we find caring words offered to the church.

Sunday, November 1: Proper 26 – All Saints Sunday
Scripture: Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10 and 22, I John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12
November 1 is All Saint’s Day and as in previous years we will stray from the Lectionary readings for Proper 26 and use the scriptures designated for the celebration of All Saint’s Day. They begin with a passage from the Book of Revelation where in a heavenly scene, multitudes from every nation, the faithful followers of the Lord who have been through trial and the great ordeal, stand before the throne of God praising the God of salvation. In the earthly realm the psalmist offers us a testimony of the goodness of God and a song of praise for deliverance from trouble. In the epistle of I John, one of the small letters near the end of the New Testament, we are called children of God because of God’s love for us now and at the right time what we will become, because of God’s unimaginably great love for us, will be revealed. Finally, in the gospel lesson, Jesus begins his public ministry with the Beatitudes which are the first part of the sermon on the Mount

Three Opportunities to Learn and Serve

Confirmation Class: Within the next month Pastor Dale will begin teaching a

Confirmation Class. If you have a child or if you might even be interested in learning more about your faith and the church, please let Pastor Dale. All questions are welcome.

Children’s Christmas: December and the seasons of Advent and Christmas are fast approaching. In the last few years, our children have offered several different Christmas programs on one of the Sundays preceding Christmas. Last year there were hopes for a more ambitious presentation, but we did not get started soon enough. This year, we are looking for a few parents, and interested folks to gather in the next week or two to select a program and get started with the preparations and practices. If interested, please speak with Pastor Dale.

Anniversary Celebration: In 2006 and 2007, twenty years ago, our congregation completed the construction of this building and began using its various parts for worship and other activities. The Council has considered celebrating this anniversary and the Spiritual Council has also started to consider what our celebration(s) might look like. The Council was hoping to select a date for the event. The Spiritual Council even considered making it a year-long celebration. We are looking for a few people to help us to consider the possibilities and plan the festivities. Interested? Please see Pastor Dale or Church President Wallace Dodson.

Pastor's Message

For many years, beginning in 1979 at Georgetown University, I attended the Annual Meetings of the Central Atlantic Conference. I found them to be wonderful events where I learned a lot about the church and my faith. They were absolutely wonderful events to meet and catch up with many great friends and colleagues. In recent years, for a few varied reasons, I have not attended these meetings, but this year I did. With the meeting four hours away on Harrisonburg, Virginia, I only participated online via Zoom, but I truly enjoyed it and the time spent watching the computer screen passed quickly!

Meetings are not my favorite part of ministry and church life, but the Conference Annual Meetings are a little different and I wish more church members would join me. However, since I was the only one to attend from Immanuel, I thought I would share a few highlights from the meeting.

Central Atlantic Conference

62nd Annual Meeting Summary

"And Who Is My Neighbor"

Luke 10:29a

Outline of Agenda:

- Plenaries: Three, hour and a half long, gatherings, of worship, business and elections, worship, introductions, and information sharing
- Workshops: two hour-long special presentations with a variety of topics from which we could choose
- Open Mike Times: Opportunities for participants to share information about projects and programs in their churches, associations and in the conference,

Preaching on the Scripture and Theme:

- Rev. Dr. Katherine "Katie" Low
    - Is Professor of Religious Studies and University Chaplain at Mary Baldwin University, as well as an ordained United Church of Christ minister, and Moderator of the Shenandoah Association.
    - She was one of our first speakers and shared a brief Bible study on Luke 10:29.
    - In response to her enlightening words, Rev. Derek Ritenour, Moderator of the Conference Meeting, joyfully coined the phrase, "If that doesn't butter your theological bread, . . . "
- Dr. Johann Schneider, the Regional Bishop of Evangelical Church of Middle Germany, expanded on the Bible Study, Rev. Dr. low offered. He said,
    - The Samaritan did not "cure" the society's ills (he got specific and named specific "ills"), the Samaritan, simply took care of one man, he involved caregiver, but he simply took care of one man.

    - The bishop stated that it is not who belongs to us (who is like us) and asked us, “Will I belong to a neighbor?” and “How can I care for this one!”
    - Following his thoughts on the scripture lesson, he and Rev. Palmer, signed an Agreement of Covenant between our two ecclesiastical bodies.
- Rev. Jennifer Knighton, President of the CAC, former Pastor of St. John’s UCC in Catonsville, and current resident of Lewes, Delaware continued, commenting:
    - Our theme is a question.
    - We live in a time when we must ask this question, “Who is my neighbor?” and “How are we to care for our neighbor?”
    - Personally, I felt Rev.. Knighton offered a very nice message filled with challenges, encouragement, and love.
- Rev. Mia McCain: offered an inspiring sermon on our theme. Rev. McCain is a multi-talented, creative woman and the first female senior pastor of the 165-year-old Riverside Baptist Church in Washington D.C.
- Rev. Freeman Palmer, the Central Atlantic Conference Minister, in his State of the Conf Address reminded us and asked:
    - Jimmy Carter officially established National Good Neighbor Day in 1978.
    - The CAC is #2 in Conferences with new church starts and new church affiliations.
    - We are “Rooted Practice” He shared with us our Conference applied for a grant to look at how music helps us to further our ministry – specifically “Social Justice/Protest Music.”
    - He also asked, in light of the divisions within our nation and even more so our church, “Can we be neighbors to people who look different, who believe differently, who vote differently, and more, Even more importantly, how can we do this?

There were several announcements I would also offer to you:

- General Synod, the meeting of the national UCC church, is now every three years, instead of two.
    - The Next annual Meeting is September 30 to October 2, 2027, in northern New Jersey at First Congregational UCC Westfield. This makes me wonder if the Chesapeake Association will be asked to host the Annual Meeting the following year.
    - The UCC now has a Federal Credit Union which was highlighted at our meeting, and it really sounds neat. Its name is Generations United Federal Credit Union and they have credit card payoff programs,

interest bearing checking and savings accounts (2.5% with min balance of $1000 on the best saving account), and more! For details go to https://gufcu.org/

In my opinion, all of the speakers and worship leaders were well prepared and eloquent. I was pleased with the "positive" nature and "joy" of the meeting. Even from my limited Zoom viewpoint, without the personal contact I used to truly enjoy about annual meetings, I found the meeting truly uplifting!

Peace, Pastor Dale

Call for a Congregational Meeting

Sunday, NOVEMBER 15, 2026 11:15 am

Purpose:

1. To vote on acceptance of the proposed budget for 2027
2. To elect a President of the Congregation for 2027

If you are interested in serving your church as President of the Congregation, please let Wallace Dodson or any member of the current Church Council or Pastor Dale know.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2027

It's time to look for three new members for the church council. Our retiring members are: Susie Creighton, Debbie Luthy and John Adkins. If you would like to serve this church as a member of the Church Council, please contact any of the council members to have your name placed on the ballot or, if asked, would you consider putting your name on the ballot. This is a great way to see and learn the inter-workings of your church…how decisions are reached, future plans. You can be in on the ground floor!

PRE-PAID FUEL 2026-2027

With cold weather just around the corner and the need to keep our church building warm this winter, getting help via our pre-paid fuel account offers a big bonus in meeting our financial obligations. Our goal this year is $10,000. Be sure to mark your donation "Pre-Paid Fuel".

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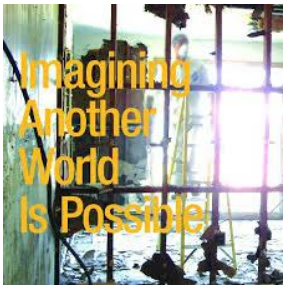
Lynn Nossick, *Treasurer*

MISSION UPDATE



NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING, which supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, will be received on Sunday, October 4. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries goes to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible.

FELLOWSHIP AND/OR FUND-RAISING

TRUNK OR TREAT 2026

Please join us for a family fun night. Dress up and enjoy the fun on Sunday, October 25, 2026 4:30-6pm. 12 and under.

We will need trunks by 4 pm and helpers to do crafts and pass out tickets.

Rain or Shine Come enjoy the fun.

PLANNING FOR 2027

We are asking ALL committees and interested individuals – please mark your calendar for Sunday, October 11 about 11:15am following the worship service. We will be holding a meeting in the Fellowship Hall to begin planning events for 2027. This will be the time for the various committees and individuals to come together to make plans for the next year. We are asking for your input. If you would like to "schedule/plan or discuss an organized" fundraiser for the Church, please come to the meeting. If you have a fundraiser idea, come to the meeting. If you have plans to use the Hall for "parties, or family events, this would also be helpful in scheduling your event. This will help in avoiding conflicts with scheduling during the year.

BIBLE STUDY

The next bible study will begin on October 27th, 11:00am – Noon. We will be using the book "Respectable Sins" by Jerry Bridges. Contact Donna Campbell 443-521-0112 or Claudia McDonald 410-463-4055 for more information or if you would like to join our very active group.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR – NOVEMBER 14 , 2026

The Holiday Bazaar is the "**last fund raiser**" of the year and it will be held on November 14th —the second Saturday of the month, 9am - noon. In the past several years, this has been one of our largest fund raisers and many people in the community come to enjoy all of our food, bake table, and items we have for sale.

We would like to request that you start planning for the Bazaar—checking to see if you have items for the "White Elephant" table, including dishes/pot and pans, small appliances only, holiday decorations, pictures, costume jewelry, handbags, curtains, linens, pictures, pillows, toys, books—just about anything you can think of to donate, but **NO** clothing. Due to the amount of work required during this busy week, we are making some changes when items may be brought to Church this year.

We are requesting that your items be brought to Church starting on October 25th and no additional items after November 8th. This will give us time to arrange and price the various items. We are also requesting that all items be washed and/or cleaned when they are delivered for pricing plus in working order.

In addition, we will have our "Silent Auction or Bid-It/Buy-It" sale. Please consider furnishing an item or basket for this table. People are always looking for something "special" for a Christmas gift. We have not always had something for children—this would be a good opportunity to donate an item for that special child. **If you don't want or have time to shop, you may make a donation and we will do the shopping for you—just make your donation by November 2nd to give us time to shop!**

We will again offer the "Chicken Salad Platter Carryout" at the Bazaar and as "Pre-Orders" for our congregation. This has been well received in previous years and we want to continue to provide them as part of our Bazaar.

In addition, we will also be offering Jock's homemade spaghetti sauce for sale during the Bazaar. These may also be pre-ordered!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S AND ANNIVERSARIES

October Birthdays	
Callan Graham Warfield	10/2
Vivian Barnett	10/2
Christy Foxwell	10/3
Paul Jackson	10/6
Sonny Malkus	10/7
Leslie Tolley	10/12
Jarrett Ashton	10/12
Barbara Bailey	10/13
Max Schnoor, Jr	10/13
Amy Malkus	10/13
Thomas Wilkison	10/13

October Birthdays (Continued)	
Jack Dodson	10/15
Sam Reeder	10/17
Robin Burton	10/18
Hannah McDonald Warfield	10/19
Leah Warfield	10/20
Carole Segar	10/22
Natalee Lyons	10/23
John Dodson	10/30
Danny Luthy	10/30
Susie Creighton	10/31
Parker Hodnett	10/31

Are you celebrating a birthday but it does not appear on our monthly birthday/anniversary listing? If so, contact the office: 410-228-4640 or email: info@immanuelucc.faith to provide us with your information. You may also provide an e-mail address.

Your Staff

The Rev. Dale Krotee	Pastor
Janice Haller	Office Administrator
J. Curtis White	Choir Director/Organist
Lynne Breil & Tine Lyte-Davis	Pianist

Your Church Council

Wallace Dodson, President

Debbie Luthy
Mark Eberspacher
John Adkins
Susie Creighton
Stephanie Dunnock
Sam Reeder
Charlotte Hanson
Lynn Nossick
Lynn Malkus-Lyons

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.faith;
pastor@immanuelucc.faith

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

Members of Immanuel:

Connie BARNETT, health issues
Carter & Ryan BASS, grandson of Jim & Susie Creighton, health issues
Carole Ann BROHAWN, health issues
Patsy CREIGHTON, heath issues
Wallace DODSON, health issues
Wells David DODSON, son of Scott & Amy Dodson
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Helen KROM, health issues, Bayleigh Chase, Easton
Julia NEWMAN, health issues
Sam REEDER, health issues
Carole SEGAR, health issues

Friends of Immanuel Church:

Merry Lee BEAVEN, friend of Bev Shelly, Candle Light Cove
Jeri BOUNDS, friend Kim Leonard, health issues
Shirley BURTON, Robin Burton's mother, health issues
Kent ELZEY, brother of Julia Neman, health issues
Carolyn ELZEY, sister-in-law of Julia Newman, health issues
Doug GILL, friend of Susie & Jim Creighton, health issues
Ivy HURT, 3 year old daughter of Jessica Hurt has serious eating & digestive problems, friend of Beverly Shelly
Beverly JONES, friend of Deana Kozak, health issues
Family & friend of Gerry KROTEE, Pastor Dale's step-mother, who died September 26, 2026
Charles LOWENSEN, brother of Diana Krotee, health issues
Debbie McCRAY, friend of Beverly Shelly & the Kozaks, health issues
Cathy POTTER, friend of Patsy Creighton, health issues
Pat RAWLS, Amy Dodson's mother, health issues
Charlotte SPEDDEN, friend of Terry Malkus, health issues
Joy STANIFORTH, friend of Robin Burton, health issues
Bud STRAIN, Jan Strain's son, health issues
Terry VINCENT, friend of Beverly Shelly, health issues and Jill his caregiver
Robbie WALKER, friend of the Kozak family, health issues

Other Prayer Requests:
Guidance in Immanuel's leaders for 2026 and beyond
The leadership of Immanuel church, the need for people willing to serve to do the mission and business of the church.
Our adopted child from Peru
Dorchester County Public Schools
Children at the border
Those shot in our country
Those suffering from natural disasters
For the healing of our nation and the world, both physical & emotional

Members and Friends Serving in Our Armed Forces:
Hunter BROWN, U.S. Army, stationed in Egypt, fiancé of Laura Dixon
Jake CREIGHTON, Captain, U.S. Army, stationed Ft. Sam Houston, TX
Lt. Kevin GRIER, nephew of Kathy Kelly, U.S. Navy, stationed in California
Buddy HAYDEN, friend of Robin Burton, U .S. Air Force
Lucas TOLLEY, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Leslie & Adam Tolley, Grandson of Lou & Dennis Jones, stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA

OCTOBER 2026

An open-hearted church, empowering people to serve God and the community

Sun	Mon					Sat
				1 6:30p Choir Practice	2	3
4 10a Worship Neighbors In Need offering	5	6 11-noon Bible Study Fellowship Hall Closed	7	8 6:30p Choir Practice	9 Garden Club Lunch	10
11 10a Worship 11:30a Planning Session 2027	12	13 11-noon Bible Study	14	15 1-6p Blood Bank 6:30p Choir Practice	16	17
18 10a Worship	19	20 11-noon Bible Study	21	22 6:30p Choir Practice	23	24
25 10a Worship 4:30-6:00p Trunk or Treat	26	27 11-noon Bible Study Fellowship Hall Closed	28	29 6:30p Choir Practice	30	31

Immanuel United Church of Christ
5401 White Hall Road
Cambridge, MD 21613
Office: 410-228-4640

www.immanuelucc.faith
Email—Office:
info@immanuelucc.faith
pastor@ immanuelucc.faith

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COUNTERS:

Oct. 4	Robin Burton & Kathy Kelly
Oct 11	George Barnett & Bill Bair
Oct. 18	Tom Wilkison & Beverly Shelly
Oct. 25	Robin Burton & Kathy Kelly

CHANCEL
ALL SUNDAYS—GREEM

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
5401 White Hall Road
Cambridge, Maryland 21613
410-228-4640 email: info@immanuelucc.faith
Return Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
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CAMBRIDGE, MD
21613

Call for a Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 15, 2026 11:15 am

PREPARE FOR WINTER, NOW!
It is time to start thinking about
PRE-PAID FUEL FOR THE 2026 – 2027
HEATING SEASON GOAL: $10,000

Please make your check payable to Immanuel UCC
Memo – "Pre-Paid Fuel"
Could you help us warm the church? Thank you!