

IMMANUEL IMAGES NOVEMBER 2024

Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings ~ the heart of our life together

10:00 Worship for All Ages ~ Sanctuary

Available in person or via Zoom or our website

www.immanuelucc.faith

Sunday, November 3: Proper 26, All Saints Sunday

Scripture: Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 or Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 24, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44

On the first Sunday in November, we will be using the scriptures for All Saint's Day. Unlike most Sunday's, these scriptures will come from the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), New Testament, and the Apocrypha. The Wisdom of Solomon is the book in the Apocrypha, and it was written after all of the Old Testament books but prior to Jesus' birth. This "intertestamental writing" is wisdom literature which teaches about the immortality of the soul, and it represents a new emphasis in the Jewish tradition. The verses we are invited to read this week will be used as a litany during our time of remembrance. The reading from the prophet Isaiah, begins with, "On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear." --- celebrating the time of redemption at the end of time. The Psalm begins with the question, "Who may enter God's sanctuary," and responds with a list of moral, not ritual, qualifications for worshippers. In the New Testament reading from Revelation, we find the familiar verse where the new heaven and earth are described as the place where God resides with his people and pain and earth will be no more. In the gospel of John, we are offered the account of Jesus raising his friend, Lazarus.

Sunday, November 10: Proper 27, Veteran's Sunday

Scripture: Ruth 3:1-5 and 4:13-17, Psalm 127, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44 Naomi's instructions to Ruth, in the book named after Ruth, are about how to court Boaz, which is later followed by the genealogy of David. The song from the book of Psalms, is a wisdom psalm which declares the utter dependance of individuals and societies on God for their well-being. The countless and unending sacrifices made by priests are compared to the once and for all sacrifice made by Christ, is the lesson found in the letter to the Hebrews. Finally, in the gospel of Mark, Jesus condemns the self-serving scribes to the poor widow, who unlike the wealthy, offers her gifts to the Temple out of poverty instead of abundance.

Sunday, November 17 Proper 28

Scripture: I Samuel 1:4-10, I Samuel 2:1-10, Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

In the week prior to Thanksgiving, we are not offered a psalm, but we have two readings from the book of First Samuel. In chapter 1 of First Samuel, the account of the birth of Samuel is set up by describing the “not so pleasant” family relationships in Hannah (Samuel’s mother) and Elkanah’s (Samuel’s father) family. In the second chapter of the book, a prayer is offered by Hannah, which is less about her personal condition of childlessness and more about the deliverance of the nation from oppression. The gospel lesson begins with the foretelling of the destruction of the temple and then Jesus shares with the disciples what life will be like in later days. An explanation of Christ’s sacrifice is set forth in the letter to the Hebrews.

Sunday, November 24 Reign of Christ, Last Sunday after Pentecost, Thanksgiving

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18), Revelation 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37

This is the last day of the church liturgical year. The three-year Lectionary Cycle C begins next week with the first Sunday of Advent, and so this week we will celebrate the last Sunday of the church liturgical year. This Sunday is often called, “Christ the King,” or “Reign of Christ Sunday,” and Jesus as a king is the theme of the lectionary scripture lessons. In the Old Testament book of Second Samuel, we read the last words of King David. The psalm is an enthronement psalm which beautifully celebrates the Lord’s taking the throne of the universe. In the book of Revelation, an apocalyptic vision, we have a portion of the introduction of the book where Jesus is portrayed as the ruler of the kings of the earth. And finally in the gospel of John, there is a dialogue between Pontius Pilate and Jesus about being a King.

Pastor’s Message

By the time you get this newsletter, I suspect Halloween will be in our rearview mirror. This year, as I was handing out Hugs (a kids juice) and fruit snacks at our Trunk or Treat event, I was thinking about a few questions I was asked many years ago. At about the same time as I was interviewing for the pastor’s position at Immanuel I also had interviews at a couple other churches.

At one church where I was invited to interview, the first question I was asked was, “How do you feel about Halloween, Harry Potter, and Santa Claus?” My first, and silent, response, was, “Holy smokes, what kind of question is that for the first question of a potential pastor for your congregation?” I truly wondered what the priority and nature of this opening question said about the people asking the question, the congregation I could be serving, and what they wanted in a pastor.

Much has been written by Christians about the subject of whether or not we should be celebrating Halloween. Some see the celebration as originating in satanic influences and, therefore, should not be touched by Christians who should seek to avoid all forms of evil. In the Harry Potter books and movies, J.K. Rowling’s (the author) “prop”

of the supernatural is one of the major reasons she receives such negative publicity. Harry Potter books have made headlines ever since the first installment was released in 1999. Parents and religious groups have expressed concern that these stories cannot be considered a simple children's fantasy. Similarly, many Christians don't allow their kids to believe in Santa Claus. One concern they have is that belief in Santa would distract from the real focus of the season, namely, Jesus' birth.

I do not fit into any of these categories. While I have not read the Harry Potter books, I know enough about them to say I do not have any objections to them. You know every year I helped the church celebrate Halloween at the Trunk or Treat. And we, during the appropriate times and ages, most certainly have made Santa Claus a part of our family Christmas celebrations. In fact, I have a hilarious story about Leah and Santa Claus, too long to tell in this article.

My position, which I shared with that Search committee over a decade ago, is a good Protestant German position – anything in moderation is fine! (This is a good defense of drinking beer too!) In the language of faith, I would refer to the Second commandment. The Second Commandment In Exodus 20:4-5, states, “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them;” this is an important commandment for me with respect to many issues and concerns.

In other words, and in my opinion founded in the Second Commandment, Halloween, Harry Potter, and Santa Claus only become problematic when our love of them, surpass our love of God. When the works of fiction, fantasy, and even tradition become the lords of our lives, driving our decision making and the life choices we make, then we need to have a conversation about our faith and loyalties.

From personal experience, I know children often read and watch things which do not honor the values and truths I find central to my life. At these times, I have – on occasion -- let it slide, hoping it is just a phase. At other times, I have used these moments as a teaching moment, and an opportunity to share my faith and beliefs. Perhaps I am too patient and trusting. Perhaps some will say, my faith is neither proper nor strong enough. However, this is my story, and I am sticking to it. By the way, I was not invited back for a second interview at that church I spoke about earlier!

Peace, Pastor Dale.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 3 following worship. We will be electing the President of the Congregation for 2025 and voting to accept the proposed budget for 2025. Everyone is welcome to attend, however, only members may vote.

DAY LIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS



Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour before retiring on Saturday November 2.

CHURCH COUNCIL



It's time to look for new members for the church council as Tina Lyte-Davis, Max Schnoor and Lou Jones will be retiring from the council having completed their term of service. It is a 3-year term, meeting once every other month. If you would like to serve this church as a member of the Church Council, please contact a member of the council or Pastor Dale. This is your opportunity to see first-hand the inner workings of your church.

OFFERING



To those who continue to meet their pledges throughout the year and offer monetary help when needed, thank you! We have to pay mortgage, utilities, payroll, insurances, Federal & State withholding taxes just to name a few of the monthly obligations. Please give what you can when you can so that we are not continuing to run in the RED. Send donations to Claudia McDonald, 4434 Maple Dam Rd., Cambridge, MD 21613 or to the church at 5401 White Hall Rd., Cambridge, MD. You may also place your donation in our locked mail box located on White Hall Rd.

BIBLE STUDY

We will start a new Bible Study on November 12, 2024 from 11-12. The book we will be using is: "Life Lessons from Matthew" by Max Lucado. Interested? Call Donna Campbell 443-521-0112 or Claudia McDonald 410-463-4055

Calling All Bakers!

The Bazaar will be held later this month and we need your help! This year the Bazaar will be held on November 9th, and this is usually a big day for our bake table. The Bake Table is usually the very first stop when the shoppers enter Fellowship Hall. They are usually looking for baked goods for their upcoming dinners and we usually have a big selection of cakes, pies, breads, cookies and candy. Our shoppers are especially looking for pies—apple, cherry, sweet potato and pumpkin.

This would also be a great time to get the children or grandchildren involved with holiday baking. They love cookies and this would be a good time to get their help in preparing their favorite cookies for the Bazaar. They would be able to eat a few and help prepare the balance for a donation to the bake table.

The baked items will require the “Ingredients Label” that we have printed and needs to be applied to each baked goods item or package. We have been using this label for some time now and it has worked well.

If possible, please bring your item(s) to Fellowship Hall/Kitchen on Friday, November 8th so they are available when the sale starts at 9am—we usually have shoppers waiting for the doors to open on Saturday morning.

Holiday Bazaar



The Holiday Bazaar is the “last fund raiser” of the year and it will be held on November 9^h—the second Saturday in November. In the past several years, this has been one of our largest fund raisers and many people in the community come to enjoy all 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, 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 items be brought to Church starting on September 29th and no additional items after November 4.** This will give us time to arrange and price the various items. **We are also requesting that all glassware/pot and pans be washed and clean when they are delivered.**

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 4th to give us time to shop!**

We will also 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 the Bazaar. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, with either Saturday, November 11th or Sunday, November 12th pickup. The carryout contains: **a scoop of Chicken Salad on lettuce, 2 deviled egg halves, grape tomatoes, grapes, cubes of cheese, crackers and plastic ware/napkin—all for \$9.00.**

News from the Missions Committee

A huge shout out to thank you all so very much for your donations and support to **Jerry Rice's Eagle Scout Project!** He has finished all his reports and has submitted everything to the Scout Master and board of review. It will take a couple of months from what we are told, but, from what we saw that he brought back to us to share with our neighbors in need, he did an awesome job! Thank you, Thank you!!

Thank you all for your donations to our **School Supply program and to the successful Family Bingo!**

Assistance: People requesting assistance has picked up recently, and, as in the past, we would like to provide food bags to those who request them. If you'd like to help, items that typically go into them are: Canned tuna and/or chicken, soup/ravioli, 2-3 vegetables, applesauce or other fruit, milk, boxed potatoes, stuffing, rice, cereal, toothbrush/toothpaste, soap, 1-2 rolls toilet paper. Bring your donation on Communion Sunday's. Donations to the Missions Fund are welcome any time for assistance help, mark your envelope. Thank You for your help!

Salvation Army Angel Tree: This year the Mission Committee will be doing something different for the Christmas Angel Tree. Instead of having separate "angel" names on the tree, we will have a toy drive box in the Narthex starting early November where you can donate any new unwrapped toy, game, book, clothing etc. suitable for ages infant through 12 years of age, boy or girl. These donations will be given to the Salvation Army angel program to be dispersed where needed. We hope this may make it easier to participate in the project to help ensure that more Dorchester County children have a good Christmas.

Homeless Shelter: For the Salvation Army of the Mid-Shore's Shelter, we would like to be able to commit to providing dinners for the dates: 12/12/24 (Kathy & family), 1/9/25, 2/13/25, 3/13/25. **However**, at this time, the Shelter is having personnel problems and is not currently operating. Once we get the word the Shelter is up and running, a sign-up sheet with instructions will be in the Narthex. Naturally, the Shelter, once it is up and running, will be feeding people every day, and we can do other dates if people so choose. There are disposable pans and a recipe book in the church pantry. If you need help, please reach out to Robin at 443-521-7869 or robinmarie18@yahoo.com.

Mission Meal:

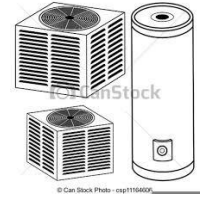
Just a "Look Ahead", mark your calendars for February 2, 2025 for the Annual Mission Meal. We look forward to seeing you!

From the Hunt Committee:

The IUCC Waterfowl Hunt Committee: With much consideration, looking at the Waterfowl hunting season, the moon schedule, and other Hunts going on in the area, it has been decided to take the 2025 season off and look toward the 2026 season. We will set a tentative date soon

PRE-PAID FUEL 2024-2025

This is just a reminder that cold weather is just around the corner and the need to keep our church building warm this winter is always a challenge. Getting help with this expense via our pre-paid fuel account is a big help in meeting our financial obligations. Our goal this year is \$10,000



THANKSGIVING/HARVEST HOME SUNDAY

Harvest Home Sunday has been a long tradition at Immanuel. In recent years, Harvest Home has become Thanksgiving Sunday and is celebrated the Sunday before the holiday. We will celebrate on Sunday, November 24th of this year.

We would like to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving. Please note that the office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Day and on Friday, Nov. 29. The office will reopen on Monday, December 1st with our normal office hours of 9am to 1pm. Enjoy the Holiday!

HANGING THE GREENS

Sunday (Nov. 24th) will be Hanging of the Greens. The Christmas tree will be set up but not decorated and as we did last year, we will be asking members of the congregation to hang at least one ornament on the tree.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Very soon the Little Free Library will expand. I have named it "The Wee Free Library". It will be located in the 0-6 age children's room and the 6 to 12 age children's room, thanks to the Dunnock family's cooperation.

The Highlights Company publishes a three age group magazine with two objectives other than profit. One is to teach youngsters to read before they enter school, and the second, as they grow older, to love reading.

Doris was a reading teacher and her mother tutored reading in Dorchester County. Some of her students were and still are members of this church. When Justin met his first grade teacher he had read most of the books she had on display. Not much older he wanted to read Moby Dick. I don't think he ever did.

Kim felt small magazines in the parking lot box might get mangled or lost so we decided to housing it in the church would be better, as well as giving good access to it. When I approached Stephanie Dunnock about the project she was not only enthusiastic but informed me that they already subscribed to the 2-6 age edition. Both editions will go to the Dunnocks first, and when they have finished reading that monthly edition, Carl IV will bring them to the proper children's room on Sunday, so children in those classes could share them, either in class, or take them home to read and then return them to class for others to share.

If you have any suggestions or questions, call me or email me.
Don Rae 410-228-5265 or donaldbrae1@gmail.com

NUT AND GOODIE SALE

Once again this year, Beverly Shelly will be offering nuts and goodies for sale to benefit Hoffman Homes for Youth, the local Cold Weather Shelter and Kitty City Rescue. To place your order, contact Beverly Shelly at Cecille's Beauty Salon 443-521-5194 (cell).

Nuts: Pecan Halves; Light Walnuts; Black Walnuts; Deluxe Nuts (no peanuts); Giant Cashews; Pistachios – Natural Salted and Pumpkin Spice Pecans

Chocolate Covered Items: Almonds w/Dark Chocolate; Pecans w/Milk Chocolate; Raisins w/Milk Chocolate ; Peanuts w/Milk Chocolate; Giant Malted Milk Balls.

Other Items: Gummi Bears Harvest Medley Mix (pecans, pistachios, cashews, cranberries & dried cherries)

All items are 16 oz. packages and are available now.

Poinsettia Order Form



\$8.00 Per Plant - Specify Color & how many

Red _____ White _____ Jingle bell (red & white mixture) _____

Please complete the order form below, put your money in envelope and put in the secretary's in-box in the office or place in Immanuel's locked mailbox by **December 8th**. Please take your poinsettia home after our Christmas Eve worship service.

(Circle one) In Honor of / In Loving Memory of

Given
by _____

Need more room, use the back

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

November Birthdays

Donna Schnoor	11/3
Adam Todd	11/3
Andrew Schnoor	11/9
David Cannon, Sr.	11/10
Stephanie Barnett	11/11
Sara Pender	11/12
Emily Jackson	11/12
Ava Dodson	11/15
Aubrey Dodson	11/15
Christy Jones	11/16
Lynn-Malkus Lyons	11/17
Cyndi Slacum	11/18
Shayla Collins	11/21
Parker Spies	11/22
Luke Giese	11/27

November Anniversaries

Debbie & Jock Luthy	11/4
Leslie & Adam Tolley	11/4
Carole Ann & Garry Brohawn	11/18
Janie & John Adkins	11/21

Your Staff

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

Your Church Council

Bill Bair – President

Tina Lyte-Davis	Chuck Hanson
Max Schnoor	Carolyn Price
Lou Jones	John Adkins
Sam Shelly	Susie Creighton
Debbie Luthy	

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

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

Members of Immanuel:

Connie BARNETT, health issues
Carter BASS, grandson of Jim & Susie Creighton, health issues
Carole Ann BROHAWN, health issues
Donna CAMPBELL, health issues
Dolores DIXON, health issues
Wells David DODSON, son of Scott & Amy Dodson
Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges
Helen KROM, health issues
Phyllis MURPHY, health issues
Beverly SHELLY, health issues
Frank SPILLMAN, health issues

Friends of Immanuel Church:

Pat ELZEY, friend of Carole Ann Brohawn, health issues
Shirley BURTON, Robin Burton's mother, health issues at home
Charlotte EDWARDS, friend of Deana Kozak, health issues
Kent ELZEY, brother of Julia Neman, health issues
Carolyn ELZEY, sister-in-law of Julia Newman, health issues
Henry & Gerry KROTEE, Pastor Dale's father, health issues
John LOWENSEN, father of Diana Krotee, health issues
Debbie McCRAY, friend of Beverly Shelly & the Kozaks, health issues
George PHILLIPS, friend of Sandy & Wallace Dodson, health issues
Sharon SHORTER, friend of Carole Brohawn, health issues
Terry VINCENT, friend of Beverly Shelly, health issues
George & Linda WRIGHT, friends of Carole Ann Brohawn, health issues

Other Prayer Requests:

Guidance in Immanuel's leaders for 2023 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
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 Wiesbaden, Germany
friend of Laura Dixon
Jake CREIGHTON, Captain, U.S. Army, stationed Ft. Sam Houston, TX
Alton FRASE, Cpl, US Marine Corps, Camp LeJeune, North Carolina
Son of Andrew & Tracy Luthy Frase, grandson of Jock &
Debbie Luthy
Buddy HAYDEN, friend of Robin Burton, U.S. Air Force
Keagan ROSARIO, U.S. Air Force, friend of Kim Leonard, now
stationed in the U.S.
Lucas TOLLEY, U.S. Marine Corps, son of Leslie & Adam Tolley,
Grandson of Lou & Dennis Jones, stationed in Okinawa, Japan
Jason T. WARDEN, Marines, nephew of Michal Dixon, in North Carolina

NOVEMBER 2024

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10a Worship 11:15a Congregational Meeting	4 FELLOWSHIP HALL CLOSED	5 11:00am Bible Study	6	7 6:30p Choir	8	9 9 am Holiday Bazaar
10 10a Worship Veteran's Recognition	11 Veteran's Day	12 11:00am Bible Study	13	14 6:30p Choir	15	16
17 10a Worship 11:15a Council Meeting	18	19 11:00am Bible Study	20	21 6:30p Choir	22	23
24 10a Worship Thanksgiving Sunday Hanging the Greens	25	26 11:00am Bible Study	27 1-6p Blood Bank	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30

Immanuel United Church of
Christ
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info@immanuelucc.faith
pastor@immanuelucc.faith

COUNTERS:

Nov. 3 George Barnett & Bill Bair
Nov. 10 Tom Wilkison & Beverly Shelly
Nov. 17 Robin Burton & Kathy Kelly
Nov. 24 George Barnett & Bill Bair

CHANCEL

All Sunday's—GREEN



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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**HOLIDAY BAZAAR –
NOVEMBER 9, 2024
9:00am - til**

**Country store, some craft items, food: chicken salad (sandwich or by the cup), soups and baked goods.
See article inside for more details.**