

Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings – the heart of our life together

10:00 Worship for All Ages – Sanctuary

Also available via Zoom

Worship Schedule

The theme of Women in the Bible will continue through the month of August. Below you will find the tentative list of topics and scriptures – all of which, as you surely know, are subject to change.

August 3

- Women in the Early Church
 - Prisca
 - Deaconess Phoebe
 - Priscilla, Chloe, Lydia, Apphia, Nympha, the mother of John Mark, and possibly the “elect lady” of John's second epistle
- Scripture
 - Romans 16:1-6 Phoebe, Prisca, Mary
 - I Cor 1:11 – Chloe
 - Acts 18:2, 18, 26 – Priscilla
 - Acts 16:14-5 and 40 – Lydia

August 10

- On this Sunday, members of the local Masonic Lodge will be worshipping with us, and Pastor Dale will **ATTEMPT** to discuss these challenging verses:
- I Timothy 2:8-12 -- *women should dress themselves modestly and decently in suitable clothing, not with their hair braided, or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes, ¹⁰but with good works, as is proper for women who profess reverence for God. ¹¹Let a woman* learn in silence with full submission. ¹²I permit no woman* to teach or to have authority over a man;* she is to keep silent.*

- I Cor 14:34-35 -- ³⁴women should be silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate, as the law also says. ³⁵If there is anything they desire to know, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church.
- And possibly a verse or two about equality in Gal 3:28 and Phil 4:3

August 17

- The next difficult topic will be the “not so successful women of the OT” including:
 - Lot’s daughters – Gen 19:8
 - Women of Gibeah – Judges 19:24ff
 - Jephthah’s daughter – Judges 11
 - Dinah, sibling of the 12 brothers – Genesis 34

August 24

- Marriage and the related topics of levirate marriage and divorce will be the focus of worship this Sunday.
- Scripture:
 - Genesis 2:18-25
 - Ephesians 5:21-33
 - I Corinthians 7:1-11

August 31

- Pastor Dale was tempted to title this sermon “Catfights of the Old Testament” but might better be called, “Hebrew women who did not get along.”
- We will discuss
 - Sarah and Hagar, Genesis 21
 - Leah and Rachel, Genesis 29

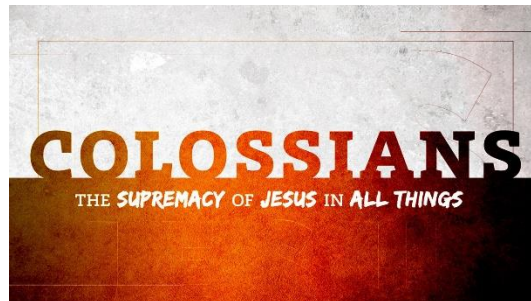
Pastor's Message

First, I would like to begin with a wonderful thank you to everyone who offered my family, and I, cards, kind words, prayers, food, and support of all kinds. Your actions speak loudly, and I thank you for everything you have done for us over the last weeks. I must admit, it was not until after the funeral that I realized how physically and emotionally exhausted I had become.

Today though, I would ask for continued prayers. My stepmother, Gerry, was admitted to the hospital less than twelve hours after the funeral reception and remains there even as I write this note. One can guess that she is not well and may demand even more care than my father demanded. Again, thank you for your continued support.

The heart of my pastoral message is inspired by a conversation in our weekly lectionary group. A couple of weeks ago, someone noted that in the letter to the Colossians, the focus of the epistle lectionary reading in July and August, the theme of reconciliation was lifted up. I thought this theme was relevant and appropriate for our world today and did not want to ignore this message while I was preaching on “Women of the Bible” this summer. (By the way, I appreciate all the positive comments about this sermon series. I have learned a lot and enjoyed preparing these sermons.)

So, I thought I might offer a primer on the Letter to the Colossians in my article this month. Interestingly enough, the theme of reconciliation is not exactly central to the letter, but I will tell you about the letter anyway!



Basics:

- Place in the New Testament: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians
- Length: 4 Chapters
- Colossae was located in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey)
- Meant to be read by Laodicean church as well
- Paul never visited Colossae in person, but was concerned about their questionable religious practices

Authorship (Disputed)

- Some argue it is truly Paul
 - If yes, it was likely written in Ephesus
 - Around mid-50's
- Others say it is written in Paul's name (pseudepigraphic writing)
 - If yes, it is simply a literary device and not an actual letter to a church
 - The argument for this is an earthquake destroyed Colossae in 60 AD
 - At about the same time as Paul was executed
- It is grouped with Paul's other "prison letters"
 - Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon

The Problem Paul was addressing:

- Interpreters are mixed on identifying what the "problem" might be. Some believe the problem was acknowledging, if not actually worshipping, heavenly powers associated with the stars, while others think the "problem" may be a more Jewish variation of Christian faith.
- The Star Problem is suggested by:
 - "thrones, or dominions or rulers or powers" -- 1:16
 - "elemental spirits of the universe" – 2:8
 - "angels" – 2:18
 - These may suggest a belief in control over human destiny by the stars and not an actual belief in the divinity of stars
- The "More Jewish variation" of the faith is suggested by:
 - Teachers demanding circumcision – 2:11
 - Observance of festivals, new moons, and sabbaths – 2:16
 - Dietary restrictions – 2:16 and 2:21
 - Worship of angels – 2:18
- In response to the problem the author says Christ:
 - Is the image of God – 1:15
 - In whom the wholeness of the deity bodily dwells – 2:9
 - Creates – 1:16
 - Gives coherence to and has absolute power over all beings – 1:17-20
 - And the cosmic "principalities and powers" have no independent authority – 2:15
 - And more . . .

- Style and Authorship
 - The style and diction of Colossians is markedly different from the other letters clearly written by Paul
 - Many sentences are long and involved
 - Synonyms and parallel expressions abound
 - There are 34 words found nowhere else in the New Testament
 - Many of the connective words and particles Paul uses regularly are not found in this letter.
 - Several theological themes in Colossians are not found in other Pauline letters
 - Those arguing for truly genuine Pauline authorship suggest the differences are due to the fact that this letter would have been written very late in Paul's life.

Again, thank you for your support during the time of my father's hospitalization, hospice time, and death. I also hope you learned a little bit and are inspired to learn more about Paul's letter to the Colossians.

Peace, Pastor Dale

Chesapeake Association News:

Pastor Dale received the following letter from his colleague Rev. Kelly Sission at First and St. Stephen's UCC in the Stoneleigh area of Towson.

*It has been a long and arduous process, but **First and St. Stephen's has made the difficult decision to sell its properties.** Like many churches, we can no longer sustain the aging building, and it has become more of a burden than a ministry. Also, with the need to cut finances — all paid staff have been given 'end of service' notices. They vary in end dates based on the tasks at hand. **My last Sunday will be Sept. 21**, though I remain the pastor of the church through December 21st with accrued sabbatical and vacation. The projected last service in the building is **November 23rd.***

*Let me be clear — at this point **the church is NOT closing.** Those are decisions that will be made in the months ahead. For now, the church properties and staff are the only decisions finalized.*

First and Stephen's has a long history. As its name suggests, dating back to 1750, First German Reformed Church was the first German Reformed and second Protestant Church in Baltimore. It started six other congregations including St. Stephen's, which later re-merged and in 1928 moved to the Rodgers Forge/Stoneleigh area as First and Stephen's Reformed Church. Similar to Immanuel's history, in the 1930s, they became First and St. Stephen's Evangelical and Reformed Church. In 1957 with the merger of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, they became First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ.

Our friend, Rev. Selena Blackwell's church, St. John's UCC in Waukegan, Illinois has gone through a very similar experience.

Anniversary Celebration:

Singers Needed

When: August 24th at 3PM

Where: United Evangelical Church, UCC

East Ave and Dillon Street

Rehearsals at United Evangelical Church Every Wednesday in August at 6:30PM

Join us also for singing at our Anniversary Worship Service September 21st at 3PM

For More Information, Contact:

Kathy Fair, M.M. Ed.

kfair_2000@yahoo.com

(814) 335-6510



BAKE SALE?

We're having a bake sale. Oops! too hot to bake? It's a bakeless bake sale. Continuing in August a "Cake" box will be out every Sunday for our donations. Donate what it would cost to make something for a real bake sale or put in your pocket change each week. The money will go toward church expenses.

News from the Mission Committee:

BLESSING FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL

We will be offering a blessing for our students, teachers and other personnel returning to our schools for the 2025-2026 year. We will also be blessing backpacks and school supplies. All this will occur on the last Sunday in August, August 24th during worship.

With many of the schools themselves and other community groups providing supplies to the local schools, The Mission Committee has made the decision to provide the schools with funds instead of supplies, so they can purchase the supplies and equipment that they need. Choptank, Hurlock, South Dorchester, Maple, Warwick, Vienna and Sandy Hill, as well as Cambridge-South Dorchester High School and North Dorchester High and Middle School, and Mace's Lane Middle School will receive the funds.

If you would like to help, please make donations to: "Mission School Project."

We will have our annual "Blessing of the Backpacks" liturgy on Sunday, August 24. Thank you for making the school year a little easier for others in our community.



It's Back! FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

An evening of fun for the ENTIRE family! Saturday, August 16, doors open at 5 pm, games start at 6 pm. Adults and children 12 and older \$15.00; children under 12 - \$5.00. Admission includes a pack of 6 bingo cards for 20 games for adults and 3 cards for 20 games for children under 12 plus a door prize ticket. (Second set of cards is \$5.00)

Food will be available for purchase. There will be Tricky Tray Baskets, a 50/50 raffle and door prizes.

This is a Family Bingo time. There is a need for helpers and donations. Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex or call the church office to have your name added to a list. Helpers are needed with set-up, at the door, during the event, in the kitchen, and for clean-up.

Donations are welcome in MANY forms! Gift cards for ALL ages of \$25.00, \$10.00 or \$5.00, and baked goods (need to attach filled out ingredients card) and other items, suitable for both adults and children. Also needed are baskets and individual items for the Tricky Tray. No time to shop, no problem, we accept cash too! Please have items brought to church by August 4 at the latest.

This is a FUN family event and a great community outreach for our church. Please help make this another success.

Thank you,
Mission & Hospitality Committees.

Christmas in September

We will again enjoy our **"Christmas in September Snowman Pre-Sale"** on September 14th (second Sunday of the month) with items on display in the "hallway outside of the Narthex". Diane Murphy will bring a few of her new "snowmen" for your viewing and advance ordering. These items will also be available for sale at the Holiday Bazaar on November 15th (3rd Saturday of the month). As has been the practice for the past several years, she will take orders for the items on display and they will be delivered prior to the Bazaar. Since she only makes a limited number of each "snowman" for the Bazaar, this allows you to order as many as you want of any given item. All sales from the "pre-sale" and "Bazaar" will be donated to the Church needs.

PRE-PAID FUEL 2025 - 2026


This is just a reminder that cold weather will come again before we know it 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. We currently have about \$2,000 left in our pre-paid account from last year. Our goal is to have this year \$10,000.

Can you help?

Diana Jackson, Treasurer



MISSION PANTRY




Please do not let our pantry empty out.
We need to come together and fill the shelves.

ITEMS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED:

Peanut Butter & Jellies	Vegetables & Stuffing
Pasta & Sauce	Soup & Crackers
Pancake Mix & Syrup	fruit cups & can meats
Cereal & Powdered Milk	Juice & Condiments
Toiletries & Paper products	Laundry Soaps

Donations are welcome any Sunday
Money donations are also accepted.



Cover: 700 x 1000 mm, 300 DPI
Reading: For reading Sunday Afternoon, June 22, 2025: 1 Kings 19:1-15a; Psalm 42; Galatians 3:23-29;
Lark 6:25-30
Scripture quotations are from the New American Bible, copyright 2011. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
B064WAL - Made in USA

MEMBERS & STAFF AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Member Birthdays

Emma Leigh Travers	8/2
Pearl Lanette Luthy	8/3
John Schnoor	8/4
Jay Book	8/6
Connie Barnett	8/7
Melissa Elzey	8/8
Rhett Warfield	8/9
Sarah Bass	8/9
John C. Adkins	8/12
Joyce Wise	8/12
Deana Kozak	8/13
John Breil	8/13
Evan Davis Kozak	8/14
Kim Bair	8/14
Mark Malkus	8/17
Rev. Selena Blackwell	8/20

Anniversaries

Kim & David Leonard	8/1
Brenda & Bill Pender	8/2
Lynn & Lee Lyons	8/19
Courtney & Harold Travers	8/19
Amy & Scott Dodson	8/22

Birthdays (Continued)

Beverly Shelly	8/21
Debbie Robbins	8/21
Paul Moore	8/21
Wells David Dodson	8/24
Talan Lucas Middleton	8/27
Jaden Windsor Kozak	8/29
Suzanne Wilkison	8/30
Diana Krotee	8/31

Your Staff

The Rev. Dale Krotee
Janice Haller
J. Curtis White
Lynne Breil & Tina Lyte-Davis

Pastor
Church Secretary
Choir Director/Organist
Pianist

Your Church Council

Max Schnoor – President

Chuck Hanson
Carolyn Price
John Adkins
Susie Creighton

Debbie Luthy
Mark Eberspacher
Stephanie Dunnock
Sam Reeder
Roger Segar

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:

Jeri BOUNDS, health issues, friend of Don Rae & Kim Leonard

Connie BARNETT, health issues

Carter BASS, grandson of Jim & Susie Creighton, health issues

Patsy CREIGHTON, health issues

Wells David DODSON, son of Scott & Amy Dodson

Bill FOXWELL, facing health challenges

Janice HALLER, health issues

Helen KROM, health issues

Carole SEGAR, health issues

Friends of Immanuel Church:

Dudley BISKER, friend of Michal Dixon, Janice Haller, 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

Gerry KROTEE, Pastor Dale's step-mother, health issues

Charles LOWENSEN, brother of Diana Krotee, health issues

John LOWENSEN, father of Diana Krotee, health issues

Betty MALKUS, health issues

Debbie McCRAY, friend of Beverly Shelly & the Kozaks, health issues

Mary Frances WARFIELD, health issues

Terry VINCENT, friend of Beverly Shelly, health issues and Jill his caregiver

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 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;

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 Egypt, 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*

*Kevin GRIER, nephew of Kathy Kelly, US Navy, Persian Gulf
Buddy HAYDEN, friend of Robin Burton, U .S. Air Force Reserves
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, U. S. Marine Corps, nephew of Michal Dixon,
in Djibouti, East Africa*



AUGUST 2025

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10a Worship	4 Fellowship Hall closed	5 11-noon Bible Study	6	7	8 Garden Club	9
10 10a Worship	11	12 11-noon Bible Study	13 Fellowship Hall Closed	14	15	16 BINGO Doors open 5pm.; Bingo 6pm
17 10a Worship	18	18 11-noon Bible Study	20	21 1-6p Blood Bank	22	23
24 10a Worship Blessing of Backpacks	25	26 11-noon Bible Study	27	28	29	30
31 10a Worship						

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

Bakeless Bake Salt
continues

COUNTERS:

Aug. 3 Robin Burton & Kathy Kelly
Aug. 10 George Barnett & Bill Bair
Aug. 17 Tom Wilkison & Beverly Shelly
Aug. 24 Robin Burton & Kathy Kelly
Aug. 31 George Barnett & Bill Bair

CHANCEL

ALL SUNDAYS—GREEN



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

5401 White Hall Road

Cambridge, Maryland 21613

410-228-4640 email: info@immanuelucc.faith

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