

*Founded 1871
Celebrating 140 Years*

Immanuel's Messenger

December, 2011

Immanuel Episcopal Church 1509 Glencoe Road Glencoe, Maryland 21152 410- 472-2828
www. immanuelglencoe.org Email: Dary@ImmanuelGlencoe.org

From the Rector:

What are you doing on December 27???

Many of us are looking forward to all of our Christmas traditions throughout the month of December. Some of us have a certain day when we bring the tree home, decorate it, unpack the Christmas dishes, decorate the house, send Christmas cards, etc, etc. There is so much to do and so much to celebrate!

We also have many traditions around December 24 and 25, of course. What will you have for dinner Christmas Eve? What will you have for breakfast Christmas Day? When will you open presents? Whose house will you visit, or is everyone coming to yours?

And when will you come to church???

After one Christmas here, as well as two year's worth of trying to plan a time for the Christmas Pageant, I have discovered that many of our parishioners and families don't make it to church for Christmas. For some, attendance at an early or late Christmas service may be a significant part of the Christmas plan. For others, you may be too busy, too overscheduled, or just not quite sure when to fit it in. For still others, you may worship at other churches with grandparents, grandchildren, or other family members. I look forward to seeing many of you on

December 24 at the 4pm or 9:30pm (9pm caroling) services. However, because we don't always get a chance to worship together as a whole congregation for Christmas, we are inviting you also to try a new endeavor with us this year. An intergenerational, all-parish, Christmas celebration will be held on ***Tuesday, December 27***. Mark your calendars now!!!

At 6:00 we will have a parish pizza party hosted by the Women of Immanuel. There will be pizza, pasta, and other goodies, all for \$2 per person. Sunday School families must RSVP to Anne Greene if you are in the pageant. All other parishioners, please RSVP to the parish office.

Come for dinner at 6:00, or come just for caroling and the pageant at 6:45, but either way, please mark your calendar, bring your family, bring some friends, and celebrate Christmas with your parish family. I look forward to seeing you there!

The Rev. Megan E. Stewart-Sicking

Vestry Members- Old and New!

We give thanks for the time and ministry of those who rotate off the vestry at the end of this calendar year: Gayle Hagan, Bunkie Hopkins, Pam Swanson, and Mary Frances Wagley. We appreciate all their prayer, vision, and hard work and look forward to their continued ministries in other areas of parish life.

Please meet and welcome our newest vestry members as of January, 2012: Linda Ambrose, Chad Crowe, Suzanne Supplee, and Peggy Taliaferro. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

-Mother Megan

Christmas Services and Special Events:

Eve of the Fest of the Nativity: Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24, 4:00pm: A family-friendly service of Holy Eucharist with organ, choir, carols, and children invited to help build the manger scene.

Saturday, December 24, 9:00pm: Caroling in the Church before the 9:30pm service begins. Come early for a good seat!

Saturday, December 24, 9:30pm: Festival Holy Eucharist with organ, choir, *and a special candlelight addition this year.*

The Feast of the Nativity: Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 10:00am: A simple, spoken service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II. *No music.*

Parish Christmas Celebration

Tuesday, December 27: Dinner, Caroling, and Christmas Pageant. See details in the Rector's article or on the flyer in this newsletter.

-Mother Megan

Our Count-Down Card for Advent

We've all had fun as children and with our children opening a window each day on an Advent card, trying to answer the question "Will Christmas ever come?" I especially like the December 6 window, which is always Saint Nicholas.

But Christians Bible had a count-down long before Hallmark did--it's the Hebrew Bible. Not a page in the New Testament makes sense without the Law and the Prophets and the Writings, and this year the special notes are rung for us in the oracles of Isaiah--three of the four Advent lessons.

They come from what we call "Second and Third Isaiah," chapters 40 through 66 on Sundays, Nov. 27 and Dec. 4 and 11. These three Sundays we'll gather in the parish hall from 9 to 10 for coffee and inspiration.

Then we can really rejoice when we hear "Unto us is born Immanu-el, a savior who is Christ the Lord!"

~~Kingsley Smith

Report from Annual Meeting, November 13, 2011

The Annual Meeting of Immanuel Parish provides an opportunity to share information with the congregation on a number of important topics. Some of these are covered every year, such as the status of this year's budget and the pledge campaign for the coming year. Other topics are brand new and reflect Immanuel's growing program activities (e.g., plans for the Children's Choir), behind-the-scenes administrative efforts (e.g., new online calendar) and new initiatives (e.g., Parish Christmas Celebration on December 27, 2011). In addition, changes in the Vestry were presented: those leaving at the end of 2011 are Gayle Hagan, Bunkie Hopkins, Pam Swanson, and Mary Frances Wagley. New Vestry members elected are Linda Ambrose, Chad Crowe, Suzanne Supplee and Peggy Taliaferro. The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon and everyone enjoyed a pot-luck luncheon where the Men of Immanuel (represented by Chuck Gilbert, Doug Whatley and Drew Perkins) provided a delicious array of grilled beef and pork selections.

Rudi Horner, Senior Warden

Highlights from the November 14th Vestry Meeting

The Vestry discussed an agenda for the Annual Meeting which was Sunday, November 13, 2011. The agenda for this year's meeting is very similar to the format used in previous years. The Vestry also reviewed and commented on a draft 2012 operating budget which Chuck Gilbert prepared. The Vestry plans to approve a final 2012 budget at the December Vestry Meeting.

Rudi Horner reported that a donation had been made to the Church for the purpose of furnishing and staffing a Nursery. The Nursery will be available during the 10:15 a.m. Sunday service to children under four years who are too young for Sunday School. This is particularly exciting because we have several new families at Immanuel who have young children.

Mary Frances Wagley, Stewardship Chair, reported that we have received 52 pledges totaling \$118,992 as of the date of the November Vestry Meeting.

Mary Jane Shanks reported that the Church raised \$100.00 from the Soup Cook-Off in October. The Vestry decided these funds will be donated to United Churches Action Network, which we have supported in the past. UCAN is an emergency assistance cooperative organization designed by member-churches to offer financial help to those in need living in and around the Cockeysville area.

Nelly Perkins

Immanuel Newcomers Officially Welcomed at Nov 6th 10:15 Service

Beginning what is hoped will be a new tradition that will occur several times a year, the congregation at the November 6th 10:15 service officially welcomed several newcomers to Immanuel including Susan and Miles Baxter, Jillian Bledsoe, Anne Browne, Jill, Andy and

Angie Connor, Adele Free and Suzanne, Scott, Flannery and Elsbeth Supplee. In addition to officially introducing each newcomer to the congregation, the welcome also included special prayers offered by Mother Megan and the recitation of Immanuel's welcoming statement by the entire congregation.

Susan Anthony
Parish Growth Committee

Sunday School News

Sunday School is discussing the Christmas story and preparing for the Christmas Pageant the whole month of December. Please come out to support our Sunday School and Middle School at the pageant on Tuesday, December 27th!

Anne Greene
Sunday School Coordinator

From our Music Department...

January is going to be Congregational Prelude Month. We want to have preludes played by you! We actually have 2 already planned; one solo and one duet. Any instrument (this includes voice) is welcome. Solos, duets, trios, etc., are all possible, so if you are part of a band, (or want to form a band for the occasion) there's a place for you. If you really would like accompaniment on the organ, I can play for you, though we really want to hear from you! If there is enough interest (or if you think that what you want to play just WON'T work for a prelude), we could do postludes, too! This does not have to be hymn-based; you can play what you already know.

Jen Newgent
Director of Music Ministries



Christmas Memorial and Thanksgiving Flowers:

If you would like to celebrate something or honor the memory of a loved one with a Christmas flower offering, please send the form to the Church office by **Thursday, December 15th**. We will use money received toward the beautiful greens and decorations in the Church, and print a list of all those Memorials and Thanksgivings for insertion in the Christmas bulletins.

There is no set amount for offerings, so that all may feel welcome to participate. If you send us a check, please note "Christmas Flowers" on the memo line.

Your Name: _____
Telephone: _____

Names(s) to be included on the list of Memorials:

Things/People to be included in the Thanksgivings:

Enclosed is my check for \$_____

Thank you.

Betsy Powell
Flower Guild

Food Bank Collections Continue WEEKLY!

Please remember to bring your donations for the Hereford Food Bank weekly! As we did last year, the children are welcome to bring their items forward in the offertory procession and place them under the altar. Food will be taken as it accumulates every few weeks. The Food Bank especially appreciates coffee, tea bags, jello mix, and noodle/rice side dishes.

Women of Immanuel

Christmas Gift Coordination Meeting, December 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m. Parish House

Women of Immanuel have purchased Christmas Gifts for the Catonsville Children's Home for almost 30 years. This year we have 11 boys on our list. The Children's Home provides a wish list for each of the boys. Thanks to all the shoppers and to Donna Sieverts for organizing the project. Our gift coordination meeting will be Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 pm in the Parish House. Please bring your gifts, scissors and ribbon. The Children's Home request that we do not wrap the gifts. Last year we put ribbon around the gifts and placed them in a gift bag for each boy. Also bring a treat to share. Hot cider will be provided.

Parish Christmas Celebration

Please join us for a Parish Christmas Celebration, Tuesday, December 27, 2011. The Women of Immanuel are hosting a Parish Christmas Pizza Party at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Pizza, pasta, dessert and drinks will be provided. There will be Caroling at 6:45 pm and the Sunday School Pageant at 7:00 pm. in the Church. Donations of \$2.00/person for the Pizza Party are welcome . Please RSVP for the Pizza Party by December 18, 2011 to the Church office [410-472-2828](tel:410-472-2828) or sign up in the Parish House. See attached flyer.

Linda Ambrose

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Coffee hours are a time of fellowship and are held immediately after the 10:15 a.m. service (after 9:00 a.m. in summer). It is a wonderful time to catch up on news with friends and meet new ones. We need Coffee Hour Hosts. The coffee, tea and lemonade are provided. All you have to do is setup and cleanup. If you would like to bring a snack or two, that would be most appreciated. If you need assistance in setting up and/or cleaning up, please let us know. If you would like to host a coffee hour, please call Bobbie Ensor at 410-472-2206.

Property Perusal

“I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape; the loneliness of it, the dead feeling of winter. Something waits beneath it. The whole story doesn't show.”

~~Andrew Wyeth

In my mind, the prelude to winter begins the very moment the fall leaf rake is completed. We gather as a group to praise each other's efforts and to celebrate our accomplishments, munching on donuts and green tea (our annual observance of the Tom-Sawyer-Ballard's former fete).

Thanks to a RECORD NUMBER of scouts and parents enthusiastically prodded by leader Bill Berger, we finished very early and Immanuel looks great! The buildings and grounds stand tidy, a quiet backdrop readied for the glow of Christmas.

Some parishioners have begun a simple and powerful tradition of “adopting” one outdoor area to tidy each season. Rudi Horner with Tim and Lucy Mettee walk the cemetery grounds. Mary Frances Wagley keeps an eye on the little garden inside the church ramp. Andy Crosby or Noby Powell shoulders a leaf blower for hours. Sam enthusiastically bounces in the leaf piles to pack them down. So appreciated! If you want to adopt even a tiny area inside or out to keep tidy through the year, please let us know.

Next items on the slate:

- a proposal to replace outdated (to be phased out) lights in Sunday School and offices, costs underwritten 80% by BGE, to save us on future electric bills
- we're considering how to handle cleaning next year
- need a few more hands on property committee. All you need is an enjoyment of keeping things running--from turning a lil bitty screw to bigger jobs, as you're inclined and able. Experience not even close to necessary!

With appreciation for Wyeth's words on winter,

Katie Aiken Ritter, Property Chair

*Ps, please remember: dressing warmly for the season helps us keep our heating bills down ☺
Wear your hats!*

“Cash for Kids”

Thank you Sarah Ebert for again volunteering to collect and tally the cash register receipts for the “Cash for Kids” program. The program began September 26, 2011 and runs through March 25, 2012. The receipts are **BLUE** this year. Please collect them and deposit them in the container provided in the church vestibule. For each \$25,000 collected in blue Graul's cash register receipts, we will receive a check in the amount of \$250 to benefit our Sunday School.

So far we have only collected \$1,647.31 in receipts. We have a long way to go!!

Also, don't forget to check the bulletin board as you leave the store. Many times customers will tack up **BLUE** receipts that they do not use.

From the Office:

Reminder: My office hours are Mon. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Wed. and Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You may reach me at 410-472-2828. If I am unavailable, please leave a voice message and I will return your call as soon as possible. You may also email me at: office.imm@verizon.net

Dary Schmidt - Your Parish Administrator

Newsletter Deadlines

All articles, photos, inserts, and updates are kindly requested by 2:30pm on:

The *second Monday* of each month.

Please give to Dary, or email to Dary@ImmanuelGlencoe.org

Following our long-standing, intentional practice, Immanuel Episcopal Church in Glencoe, Maryland, extends a warm welcome and an invitation to join us in community and worship to all people who desire to love and worship God, follow the example and teachings of Jesus Christ, and seek loving fellowship with others in His church. We extend this welcome and invitation especially to all who may have particular reason to think they may not be welcome because of physical appearance, physical or mental ability, ethnic or religious background, sexual orientation, financial circumstance, or past or present sins. We confess that we are not a community already perfected in love. But we want to become more fully loving, and we welcome into our community all who wish to join us in this endeavor.

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Megan E. Stewart-Sicking, Rector, Megan@ImmanuelGlencoe.org
The Rev. Kingsley Smith, Assisting Priest, Kingsley@ImmanuelGlencoe.org
Miss Jen Newgent, Director of Music Ministries, Jen@ImmanuelGlencoe.org
Ms. Dary Schmidt, Parish Administrator, Dary@ImmanuelGlencoe.org
Ms. Anne Greene, Church School Administrator, Anne@ImmanuelGlencoe.org
Ms. Cathy Tipper, Business Manager, Cathy@ImmanuelGlencoe.org

Vestry and Officers

Rudi Horner, Senior Warden, Doug Whatley, Junior Warden,
Chuck Gilbert, Treasurer, Nelly Perkins, Registrar,
Deborah Cunningham, Carol Hayes, Doug Gunn,
Gayle Hagan, Bunkie Hopkins, Tara McDonough,
Mary Jane Shanks, Pam Swanson,
and Mary Frances Wagley

December 2011

Dec. 1	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Dec. 18		4 Advent
				8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I
Dec. 4		2 Advent		10:10 a.m.	Sunday School
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I		10:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Education		11:30 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	10:10 a.m.	Sunday School			
	10:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II	Dec. 22	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:30 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Dec. 24		Christmas Eve
				4:00 p.m.	Family Service/H. E. II w/Music and Choir
Dec. 6	7:00 p.m.	Adult Education – Parish Hall		9:00 p.m.	Caroling in the Church
Dec. 7	7:00 p.m.	WOI Gift Wrapping P.H.		9:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist II w/Music, Choir, and candlelight
Dec. 8	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
Dec. 11		3 Advent	Dec. 25		Christmas Day
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist I		10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II/ <i>no Music</i>
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Education			
	10:10 a.m.	Sunday School	Dec. 26		Office Closed
	10:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist II	Dec. 27		Parish Christmas Celebration
	11:30 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal		5:30 p.m.	Pageant Rehearsal
Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.	Vestry Meeting – Parish Hall		6:00 p.m.	Pizza Party/Parish Hall
Dec. 15	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		6:45 p.m.	Caroling/Church
				7:00 p.m.	Children's Pageant/Church

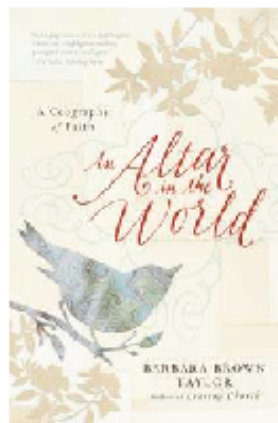
Adult Education Fall 2011-2012
Immanuel Episcopal Church, Glencoe, MD

Spirituality in Everyday Life

Book discussion on:
An Altar in the World
by **Barbara Brown Taylor**

7:00-8:30pm
Wednesday, Nov 16, Chapters 1-4
Tuesday, Dec 6, Chapters 5-8
Wednesday, Jan 11, Chapters 9-12

Facilitated by: The Rev. Megan Stewart-Sicking



**Advent Lessons
from the Prophet Isaiah**

Sunday Morning Series
9:00-9:50am
Nov 27, Dec 4, Dec 11

Learn some basics about the Book of the Prophet Isaiah
and explore the readings selected for use in worship during
Advent.

Facilitated by: The Rev. Kingsley Smith

Looking Ahead:

Sunday Morning Lenten Series

A DVD Series by Phyllis Tickle exploring Emergence Christianity. Class facilitated by The Rev. Kingsley Smith. Dates will be listed in the January Newsletter. Sunday mornings in Lent from 9-9:50am.

Author, historian and keen cultural observer Phyllis Tickle invites us to join her in examining the changing face of Christianity and culture. Phyllis surveys 2000 years of Western history, identifying the great upheavals that occur in Western culture and Christianity every 500 years. The last was the Great Reformation of the 1500's; the next is happening now. What are the key questions and issues that need to be addressed? Where might we be headed next?

Spring Evening Series reading and discussing the newest book from Diana Butler Bass: *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*. To be released in February 2012. Class facilitated by The Rev. Megan Stewart-Sicking. Dates TBD for April-June.



*Immanuel
Parish Christmas Celebration*

December 27, 2011

*Pizza Party 6:00 pm – Parish Hall
(Pizza, pasta, dessert)*

Caroling 6:45 pm – Church

Sunday School Pageant 7:00 pm - Church

*RSVP for Pizza Party by December 18, 2011
410-472-2828 or sign up in the Parish Hall*





*Immanuel Episcopal Church
1509 Glencoe Road
Glencoe, MD 21152*





North County Santa Breakfast

Camp Puh'tok Lodge, 17433 Big Falls Road, Monkton


 Sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 485 

This organization and its materials are not affiliated with, sponsored by, or endorsed by Baltimore County Public Schools, the Superintendent, or this Baltimore County Public School or office.

 Pancakes
Sausage & Bacon
Scrambled Eggs
Bagels
Belgian Waffles

Tickets:
\$8.00 pre-purchased
\$9.00 at-the-door
Children 5 & under FREE!



 Crafts to Make
Cookie Wheel
Lollipop Tree
Princess Manicures
Portraits with Santa

Visits With Santa!
Professional Storytelling

 Ample Parking
with Shuttle Service

Saturday, December 3
7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

SEND YOUR MONEY BY NOVEMBER 30

Mail Orders will receive 2 FREE Game Coupons!

Mail to: North County Santa Breakfast P.O. Box 327, Sparks, MD 21152
Questions? Call Bob Ryan 410-472-2748

Or Visit, *Wegmans* in Hunt Valley to Purchase Tickets