

Founded 1871
Celebrating 139 Years

Immanuel's Messenger

July, 2010

Immanuel Episcopal Church 1509 Glencoe Road Glencoe, Maryland 21152 410-472-2828
www.immanuelglencoe.org Email: office.imm@verizon.net

From the Rector:

New Opportunities at Immanuel

Summer is hardly a slow season here at Immanuel Church, at least not this year! Staff and ministry leaders are hard at work creating next year's program calendar, re-organizing ministries, and beginning new ones. Whether you are vacationing, slowing down, or working as usual, now is the time to think about ministries at church. You will be hearing much more about this in upcoming newsletters, with many ministries and groups highlighted, but here are two to consider now:

New Outreach Committee: Immanuel has a long history of reaching out into the community and beyond. We are now ready to call a group to consider outreach opportunities and to help us feel more organized and cohesive around this important part of our work as a congregation. If you are involved in outreach or service projects as an individual, that is outreach on behalf of our whole community. After all, we are one body with many parts. Of course, there are also outreach opportunities that bring our entire congregation together. If you are involved with some outreach ministry, or if you simply feel called to help us organize and re-invigorate this committee at Immanuel, please contact me. Our first committee meeting will be in August.

New Parish Life Committee: Special events, festive receptions, educational opportunities, coffee hour, newcomers, and too much more to name! All these aspects of our parish life need hands to help. Please watch for more information about this new committee and ways you might get involved.

From August through October, you will be hearing more about all ministry opportunities at Immanuel. This is a wonderful time to consider what you love to do at Immanuel, what nourishes your spirit, and what new things you have thought about but haven't tried yet. Lists of ministry opportunities will be provided for you. So begin to think it over now, and listen for God with an open mind and an open heart. I look forward to serving through many ministries with you over the next program year!

The Rev. Megan E. Stewart-Sicking

Highlights from the June 8th Vestry Meeting

At the June Vestry meeting, we welcomed Doug Gunn as a new member of the Vestry.

We spent a large part of the meeting talking about the Small Group Discussions which took place on Sunday, May 16th. Following the Small Group Discussions, each of the Small Group leaders

prepared a summary of the topics discussed and issues raised. We talked about these summaries briefly at the May Vestry meeting with the understanding we would rank and prioritize all the goals presented in the Small Groups at the June Vestry meeting. The Vestry recognizes that all of these goals are important, but we also believe that not all of the goals can be accomplished in a single year and therefore will focus first on what should be done in the next program year.

Prior to the June Vestry meeting, Mother Megan prepared lists, which were organized by general headings such as Worship, Finances/Membership, Admin/Other, etc. The lists, which were hung on the walls in the Parish House, included every goal presented in the Small Groups. At the June meeting, each Vestry member and officer was given six stickers and the opportunity to place a sticker (or multiple stickers) beside the goals that they considered most critical for the coming year.

There will be much more to report on the Small Group Discussions in the future, but in the meantime, we would like the congregation to know that we are acting on the information we gathered from everyone who was able to participate in the Small Groups. Thank you for your feedback.

Nelly Perkins

A note to the Congregation

To clarify any questions that have been asked about John Holland's resignation on March 31, 2010, I wish to affirm that the reason behind accepting his letter of resignation in no way reflects on John's undisputed musicianship, but was based solely on our inability to resolve differences which prevented us from working together as a team. John, the vestry, and I want everyone to be assured that there was absolutely no immoral or unlawful behavior which prompted this agreement. As I stated in my previous remarks, I wish John well.

The Rev. Megan Stewart-Sicking, Rector

Women of Immanuel in Transition

The Women of Immanuel has faithfully served the parish for decades, in many visible and not-so-visible ways. In the not-too-distant past, this group met monthly with speakers and also organized magnificent fundraisers to support the on-going activities and general expenses of the church. More recently, the group has been responsible for a variety of activities, including organizing many receptions, the popular annual bus trip, and continuing Christmas outreach to the Catonsville Boy's Home. Now the active members of the Women of Immanuel have decided to become the women of Immanuel - - what this means is that individual members will join other parish groups to further the hospitality, outreach, adult education, spirituality and social ministries of the church.

To that end, Immanuel is now seeking volunteers to join two ministries: 1) Outreach, which helps us focus time, talent and treasure on those in need outside of our parish; and 2) a new ministry called Parish Life, which will help organize our popular social events, e.g., Pancake Supper, Bus Trip, Square Dance, Flea Market and receptions. Please contact Mother Megan to express your interest in joining one – or both!—of these groups.

At this time, the parish extends a hearty "Thank you for a job well done" to outgoing WOI President, Linda Ambrose, who has served faithfully for the past four years. Early in January 2011, the WOI will gather to assess the status of this transition period.

African Crafts Looking for Volunteer Coordinators

The African Crafts sale is scheduled for the last two weeks in October. Last year's volunteer coordinators are no longer available; thus we are looking for two new volunteers to take over this

effort. If there is no response, then we will cancel the sale. Please contact Rudi Horner (410-472-0211) if you are interested.

Plant Swap

Do you have flowers or ground cover that have migrated to places where you don't want them? Instead of just tossing them on the compost heap, consider bringing them to the plant swap at Immanuel. All you have to do is to put them in portable containers (you don't want back) and put them on the table designated for this in the Parish House. Place a sign by them that gives the name, color and sun requirements (e.g., full sun; partial sun; shade) and your name. Monitor the table and remove any remaining plants that haven't found a new home in a reasonable time. Don't count on anyone coming by to water them. Anyone who wants a plant can take one or more! You don't need to have donated any in order to take some. This will go on for several months, as long as donated plants continue to show up and are adopted by others.

Rudi Horner

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.

Immanuel's July Property

What's going on? Summer offers the wonderful conundrum of us often working harder than during any other season...but feeling as if we're all sort of on vacation! What a great mindset!

I spoke with the Bishop during his visit to Immanuel, and stressed my goal of having our parish—which is so forward thinking in so many ways!—work as a community towards the green initiatives he is encouraging.

We'll be in touch with the diocesan center about it again, with his encouragement, and he's recommended we speak to other churches who are also interested. In addition, we'd like to have some speakers at Immanuel to help encourage our efforts.

If you know of someone who would enjoy leading a workshop or speaking (sorry, no honorarium) please let us know. We'll work with our able parish administrator and with our rector to fit it into our programs.

In the meantime, what can we do this summer to honor the earth which sustains our bodies? The biggest thing is to reduce 1) carbon use and 2) oil use.

Some things you can do are:

- open the windows and run your air conditioner way less
- especially at night, open both upstairs and downstairs windows to cool your home (and hear the birds!)
- plant native American hardwood shade trees due east and due west of your home, close enough to "umbrella shade" the house. They will significantly reduce your need to air condition, and make your home more lovely. My personal favorites are sycamores!
- use less water in every way in your home. Well pumps create a large percentage of rural families' carbon emissions.
- Lobby your workplace for men's "summer apparel" rules: golf/button shirts with no ties,

dress khaki shorts, loafers. If you can wear it on an expensive golf green, it should be okay in the office. Since every business is feeling the economy's pinch: cooler attire means less AC needed and lower BGE bills. Why air condition so much everyone needs sweaters??!

- Freeze local produce for winter. Fresh and frozen produce from other states and countries is a hugely plastic-intensive, carbon-intensive product: lots of oil underwrites grocery greens!

Thanks to all of you for your enthusiastic support of new ideas! Let's really do this!

Katie Ritter
Property Chair

What loves warm months? Weeds!

If you're having a stressful day and need some peace, or want to catch up on conversation with a friend, we encourage you to do it on your knees at Immanuel.....

....in the garden, that is! The beds around the church perimeter always need weeding in the summer, and it's a great place to be for an hour of friendship or solitude.

Weeds can be simply thrown over the hillside! We are planning to plant impatiens on the entrance side of the church. Please let us know if you want to help.

Note: If you're inclined to do a little more, we always have The Great Pachysandra Planting ongoing. Yank up some roots from the downside of the driveway hill, and transplant them on the upside of the driveway. They help stabilize soil and roots. No \$2000 to Keil Tree for removal of downed trees! Yay! A simple, free solution!

Katie Ritter
Property Chair

Sunday School News

Look for kids in the services this summer. We are helping with the collection and helping Mother Megan at the altar.

Remember if you want your child to participate, IT IS FIRST COME, FIRST TO SERVE. The children in the procession will vest in the red and white garments.

All children (and adults!) are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items every week and to present them at the offertory.

Coleman Mettee
Sunday School Coordinator

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 office.imm@verizon.net

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, immanuelrector@gmail.com
The Rev. Kingsley Smith, Assisting Priest, pksmith@comcast.net
Ms. Dary Schmidt, Parish Administrator, office.imm@verizon.net
Ms. Coleman, Mettee, Church School Administrator
Ms. Cathy Tipper, Business Manager, crtipper@aol.com

Vestry and Officers

Rudi Horner, Senior Warden, Doug Whatley, Junior Warden,
Chuck Gilbert, Treasurer, Nelly Perkins, Registrar,
Deborah Cunningham, Todd Ensor, Doug Gunn,
Gayle Hagan, Bunkie Hopkins, Catherine Klein,
Katie Ritter, Donna Saddler,
Mary Jane Shanks, Pam Swanson,
and Mary Frances Wagley

July 2010

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| July 4 | | 6 Pentecost | July 18 | | 8 Pentecost |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist II | | 9:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist II |
| July 5 | | Office Closed-July 4th Holiday | July 25 | | 9 Pentecost |
| | | | | 9:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist II |
| July 10 | 10:00 a.m. | Tea and Talk/Gayle Hagan | July 26 | 1:00 p.m. | Newsletter Team Meets |
| July 11 | | 7 Pentecost | | | |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist II | | | |
| July 15 | 2:30 p.m. | Newsletter Deadline | | | |