

Immanuel's Messenger

December 2013/January 2014

Immanuel Episcopal Church 1509 Glencoe Road Glencoe, Maryland 21152 410-472-2828
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From the Rector:

This newsletter is absolutely packed with information, reports, and other important notes—such as a huge THANK YOU to Anne Somerville, former Altar Guild Chair, and a note to the congregation from Ellie Borton. Please take a few minutes to scan all of the headlines so you don't miss any important news and notes!

I wish to offer our gratitude to Jen Newgent, our guest musicians, guest singers from the Homeschool Harmonizers, our own choir, and all who helped with our special November service in the Parish Hall. I hope everyone enjoyed this praise service, and we'd love to hear from you if you think we should do it again sometime. Watch your bulletin and parish emails for details about our other special services this year. We still plan to worship with a Taize service, a Morning Prayer service, and a high-church style service.

-The Rev. Megan E. Stewart-Sicking
Rector

Message from our new Senior Warden

During the evening of the November monthly Vestry meeting I took the oath of office of Senior Warden for Immanuel Church. I swore my allegiance to the Christian faith and the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church all with the help of God. There is no doubt I have a great example to follow in Rudi Horner and to be considered even in the same company inspires my confidence and galvanizes my resolve to serve this special church and its community. I look forward to continuing the journey we are taking here together to become a more fully loving community.

One of the most meaningful times of the Church calendar is coming upon us. Through participation in our Advent Sundays, our local and global outreach, our corporate worship on Christmas Eve, and our Christmas Pageant preparations and presentation, we will be ready for the coming of our Lord.

Faithfully,
Liz Sieck
Senior Warden

From the Music Department

Christmas is almost upon us! If anyone would like to sing with the choir for Christmas Eve, let me know! We will begin rehearsals of Christmas music on Thursday, December 5, at 7:30pm. Rehearsals will be structured such that you will be able to warm up, work on the Christmas music, and then go home, while the rest of the choir remains to work on the Advent music.

Congregational Preludes! If anyone sings and/or plays an instrument and would like to play a prelude, let me know! We'll start with Sundays in January and add through Epiphany as needed. Any instrument is welcome! Duets, trios, whole bands - if you want to play with a friend, that is fine, too! If you can't find a friend, let me know and I can be your friend, or, if I know of others in your situation, find you one. :-)

Looking Ahead - Have you ever wanted to sing in choir, but thought you didn't know enough about music, or thought you couldn't sing well enough, or you just weren't quite brave enough to audition? On February 23, we will invite anyone who has a desire to experience choir to join with our regular singers for the anthem. Any experience level is welcome, whether you have sung for years or never sung in choir before! Any

age is welcome! Any voice part is welcome (even those of you who think your voice is 'bad')! Rehearsals will be Thursdays February 13 and 20, from 7:30 - 8:15pm (the regular choir will stay to rehearse until 9pm). We will meet at 9am on Sunday, February 23, to warm up and then sing during the 10:15am service. This is a no-stress, fun choir time!

Jen Newgent
Director of Music Ministries

Middle School Youth Group

We will meet on Friday, December 6 for a shopping outing to purchase items for the Catonsville Boys Home. Please be at the Parish Hall at 5:30pm when we will (quickly!) enjoy Chik-fil-A Nuggests, chips, and drinks. We will then drive to a local store to shop for the items on the boys' wish lists. Please bring \$5 per child for a possible ice cream stop if time permits. Dinner and shopping will be covered by our youth group and outreach budgets. Pick up in the Parish Hall at 8:30pm. Don't forget your permission slip! They will be emailed a few days in advance to the whole group.

Do you have ideas for what you might like to do the second half of the year? Please let us know!

-Mother Megan and Miss Jen

WRAPPING THINGS UP Christmas Gifts for Catonsville Children's Home

**December 8, 2013
After Coffee Hour**

Once again this year, the Women of Immanuel will join Immanuel's Youth Group and the congregation in giving gifts to boys at the Catonsville Children's Home. Each boy will receive items from his wish list, such as socks or t-shirts, a jar of candy, and a gift card. We hope the entire congregation will support this effort. The youth group will shop to buy wish list items and the candy. Mother Megan and Miss Jen will coordinate this part of the gift giving with the youth group and their parents.

Other members of our congregation are encouraged to donate gift cards purchased at Walmart, Target, or iTunes. To insure equality, we are asking those interested to donate gift cards totaling up to \$50, with each gift card not to exceed \$25 in value. **Gift card donations should be returned to one of the following no later than Sunday morning, December 8:** Donna Sieverts, Mary Jane Shanks, Linda Ambrose, or Dary at the church office. Following the services on December 8th, the members of WOI and the Youth Group (and anyone else who would like to join us) will meet in the Parish Hall after the coffee hour to put the gift bags together.

Thank you for your generosity and support in past years, and we hope you will join us in giving this year.

Mary Jane Shanks

Christmas Pageant Details

Please note the following important dates for the upcoming Christmas Pageant and Parish Christmas Celebration!

Rehearsals: During Sunday School beginning November 24.

Tech Rehearsal: an evening TBA, after the tech crew and Jen have coordinated schedules
Mandatory Rehearsal: Sunday, December 22, immediately following the 10:15am service, in the Parish Hall.

Final dress rehearsal immediately before the event: Friday, December 27 at 4:30pm, in the Parish Hall. Please be ready to start at 4:30, which means you might plan to arrive at 4:20!

Pageant Schedule Dec 27: (in the Parish Hall)

3:45pm Children's Choir and Homeschool
Harmonizers arrive to warm up
4:30pm Dress Rehearsal for all participants!
5:45pm Dinner
6:30pm Children dress while adults move tables
7:00pm Pageant

-Jen Newgent
Director of Music Ministries
-Anne Greene
Sunday School Administrator
-And Mother Megan

Plans for our Christmas Offering

At its November meeting, the Vestry voted to split our Christmas offering to support both international and local concerns. One half of the offering will be donated to relief efforts in the Philippines from the devastation caused by Typhoon Haiyan. In the 1990's, I visited those islands – Samar, Cebu, Panay and Leyte – to assist in evaluating community development projects. My fellow consultant and I were inspired by the hard-working individuals we met and their dedication to their families and communities. Our donation will be channeled through Episcopal Relief and Development.

Locally, we will direct the other half of our Christmas offering to support our area's food banks, as the cutback in food stamps has resulted in a rapid increase in requests and the stocks are becoming depleted at a time of year when they are usually fairly full.

Finally, if you are seeking a Christmas present for someone on your list "who has everything", or "who doesn't want anything", then consider the "Gifts for Life" program of Episcopal Relief and Development (www.episcopalrelief.org). You can purchase animals, mosquito nets, new wells or myriad other items that will help low-income families around the world move towards increased self-sufficiency.

The Altar Guild Thanks Anne Somerville

Anne Somerville recently stepped off as head of the Altar Guild. At 20 or so years, she is one of the longest serving heads of this ministry. Since the 1960s, June Wippert (after whom the Sacristy is dedicated) is the only one to serve as long as Anne.

Anne ensured the smooth management of anything altar related. She faithfully called us every month to assign dates for the schedule and arranged for meetings when necessary. During those calls and meetings, she provided a comforting ear to those who needed to talk. She has always been there to back us up and provide training when needed. She was especially thoughtful during the summer months, giving us a 3-month break by handling all Altar Guild duties. Anne made sure that the supplies were fresh and available, the fair linen was cleaned and ironed, and she took care of the extraneous jobs such as cleaning the candle toppers and candelisnuffer.

During a recent service, Mother Megan commented on attendance at church. Anne's church attendance sets a lofty example. She can almost always be seen sitting in the second row of the back pews on the left. If she isn't there, it is for a very good reason. She often asks if she will see me in church on this or that Sunday. I now reply "maybe," because I always feel I am disappointing her a little if I say "no." When I do attend, her face lights up with a smile, making me feel so welcome. I love that about Anne.

Anne has always referred to us as "my girls." Please join Anne's girls in thanking her for her long service as head of the Altar Guild ministry. She will remain a faithful guild member, mentoring the new head and new members to the Altar Guild.

Mary Jane Shanks and All of Anne's Girls

Linda Ambrose	Mary Jane Moses
Heather Crowe	Carolyn Sass
Betty Cummings	Donna Sieverts
Tara McDonough	

A Note from One of Our Young Members

Dear Immanuel Church,

Thank you for helping with the fundraiser for Samantha Elzein. I think it is important for all kids to do this, so we learn how to help others when they need our help. I will help you, too, when you need my help doing something for other people.

For our fundraiser, we made over 25 dozen chocolate chip cookies, 2 dozen cookie pops, 16 slices of cheesecake and 10 slices of apple pie crisp, as well as some other dishes for the *Breakfast for Dinner* cook-off. Your donations were very generous and will help to support Samantha's family with meal and travel costs during Samantha's recovery.

I am especially grateful for donations from the square dance and from the Women of Immanuel which I did not expect. We *all* did a marvelous job and raised much more money for Samantha than I thought we would.

Sincerely,
Ellie Borton

Cook-Off Review Receives 5 Stars!

Once again, this annual event (October 12, 2013) provided a delicious dinner by the Cook-Off contestants and then an opportunity to immediately work off some of the calories through square dancing! Hats off to the 12 chefs whose delectable dishes became dinner as we sampled and pondered each and every bite: Mother Megan+, Ava & Andrei Turner, Angie and Andy Conner, Lucy Mettee, Kate, Julia & Alex Whatley, Laura Sheffield & Ellie, Sarah and Jim Borton. The winners were: 1st place - *I Love Lucy's Quiche Muffins* (Lucy Mettee); 2nd place – *Awesome Apple Scones* (Julia Whatley); and 3rd place – *Belgian Waffle Surprise* (Kate Whatley). The dinner was absolutely scrumptious!

This event could not happen if these chefs (and their helpers) were not willing to donate their expertise, time and ingredients to create and share their unique entries. An added feature this year was the items for sale to benefit Samantha Elzein. Ellie Borton was the driver behind this fundraising effort and has prepared a separate article (above). After dinner, 28 people enjoyed square, circle and line dancing, ably led by caller Gene Fitta. The whole event netted \$194.48 to help Samantha.

Besides the chefs, other members of the event team included: Mary Jane Shanks, Tim Mettee, Deborah Cunningham, the Boy Scouts, Donna and John Sieverts, Eva Whiteley, Tom Champion, Liz Sieck and Rudi Horner.

Rudi Horner

The Altar Guild Needs You!

There is one thing that never changes — life is complicated. Work, family, volunteer responsibilities, appointments and the unexpected eat up our time. It is hard to ask people to add one more thing to their busy “To Do” lists. Yet, I am doing just that. The Altar Guild needs more members. More to the point, we need some younger members to come along who will be the backbone of the ministry ten years from now.

In my thirties, I worked, had a child, and was experiencing some medical problems. The church helped me work through some of those difficult issues, so I felt the need to seek ways to give back. Since my child was young, I took on the responsibility of the Church School in partnership

with another parent. I also decided to join the Altar Guild.

Since my mother had always been on the Altar Guild, it seemed natural to follow in her footsteps, but that wasn't the only reason. Working on the Altar Guild fit my lifestyle and personality, and frankly, it was the easiest of all other church ministries. I could easily stop in and do the prep duties on my way back from work or while running errands, and cleanup was simple since I had to be there on some Sundays anyway.

I enjoy working behind the scenes. The Altar Guild provides that opportunity, and I immensely enjoy the quiet and serenity that comes with the job. It requires perhaps 2 hours of my time, once or twice a month. When I first began, there were enough members for us to pair up for the 10:15 service. I enjoyed being mentored by the more experienced members. If I couldn't make it to church on an assigned Sunday, my partner could handle cleaning up. A quiet camaraderie has always existed among the members of the Altar Guild. We all help one another.

Taking communion is an emotional experience for me. When I am at the altar, I think of all the people I love who are no longer living. I visualize them standing behind the altar, waiting to share in the marvelous transformation that takes place during communion. So, there is something very satisfying about viewing the altar during a service and knowing I have had a hand in preparing the most important experience people share at a service. Most people do not notice the small things, but the members of the Altar Guild share an extra sense of gratification in knowing the nuances of the altar and communion.

Our numbers are dwindling and there are not enough of us. More members will mean less work for all, making the job even easier. There are many ways to contribute: Polish silver, clean and put things away one or two Sundays a month, set up or switch out between services. If you cannot come to church regularly, you may have time to do prep work a day or two before the service. It is not complicated, and a mentor can always be there to guide you through if needed. After all these years, I still make mistakes. Mother Megan is very forgiving, as are all guild members.

This traditionally has been a woman's job. But, today we have moved away from gender role assignments. So we invite anyone to join us. If you can follow simple instructions and have an

extra couple of hours during the month, you can do Altar Guild. Please give us a try. If interested, give me a call or send me an email.

Mary Jane Shanks
Head of Altar Guild

Outreach News

It's been a very busy year so far and Immanuel has supported on-going and emergency needs from right at home to around the globe. The list below will be updated again for the next newsletter and will include the Christmas Offering and any other efforts between now and the end of the year. So far, we have raised funds for:

The Ark – preschool program for homeless children

Total donated \$1,292.76

375.76 Souper Bowl of Caring
200.00 Operating budget for guest preacher
300.00 Individual donation
417.00 Pancake Supper proceeds

Good Friday Offering

\$102.00 for the Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

Easter Offering

\$1,419 for Neighbor-To-Neighbor, dedicated to preventing homelessness in Baltimore County

High School for Orphans in Zambia – Whatley family

Total donated \$1,211.57

229.57 Graul's receipts
124.00 Pentecost fair food ticket sales
50.00 Discretionary fund for the fair
483.00 Silent auction at the fair
325.00 Outreach operating budget

Tornado Relief – Oklahoma

\$200 via St. John's, Havre de Grace

Paul's Place

Total donated \$600
200.00 Outreach operating budget
200.00 Operating budget for guest preacher
200.00 Women of Immanuel

The Club at Collington

300.00 School uniforms & other clothing needs

Neighbor in need – Samantha Elzein

Total donated \$714.38

194.38 Cook-Off & Square Dance proceeds
200.00 Women of Immanuel
320.00 Fundraising efforts – Ellie Borton

Thanksgiving – Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC)

Total donated \$990

300.00 30 turkeys
690.00 Thanksgiving food baskets

Total 2013 as of November 13: \$6,384.71

Plus: assistance from the Discretionary Fund, diocesan outreach from our annual assessment paid to the diocese, weekly food collections delivered approximately every other month to the Hereford Food Bank, and a special 6-week food collection for the Episcopal Community Services food bank in Baltimore City. Donations for the Catonsville Children's Home and from our Christmas offering are still to come in December.

Thanks to everyone who contributes in so many ways to these vital outreach efforts. The total is clearly greater than the sum of the individual parts!

Rudi Horner

Know Anyone Looking for Good Childcare or Preschool Programs? Don't Forget St. James' Preschool in Parkton!

Young Immanuel members Angie and William Conner love spending time at St. James' Preschool! I have heard that Angie is sad on no-school days, and although he is too young to attend, the staff has provided little William with his own nametag so he can check-in and color while his big sister settles in for her class! You may also know Angie and William's parents, Andy and Jill, both of whom highly recommend the St. James' Preschool.

If you have family members, friends, or neighbors looking for programs for ages 2-5, please have them visit the website at www.stjamesparkton.org.

-Megan+

Pledge Drive Still Collecting Pledges

Our 2014 Pledge Drive began with an immediate and generous response. To date (11/25/2013), we have received 53 pledges, totaling \$120,920.

Every pledge is significant, an affirmation of our enthusiasm for Immanuel Church. Therefore, we hope to hear from dozens of members of Immanuel Church who have not yet replied.

If you need a duplicate pledge card, feel free to take one from the Narthex of the church. Please feel free to contact the parish office to ask that a new pledge card be mailed to you.

Your pledge can be submitted without a pledge card, but it must be in writing, specifying who in your family is participating in the pledge and the total amount being pledged for 2014. Please indicate whether the pledge will be paid gradually through weekly, monthly, or quarterly contributions. If you want offering envelopes, please ask for them.

Our 2014 Budget requires considerably more in pledges, and we recognize that active members are still making their thoughtful pledges for next year.

Our Parish thanks each family and individual who has already pledged for 2014.

Deborah Cunningham
Tara McDonough
Co-Chairs, Pledge Drive 2014



**JOIN US AT
IMMANUEL'S PANCAKE SUPPER
AND SUPPORT THE ARK**

***Shrove Tuesday
March 4, 2014
6:00 PM in the Parish Hall***

Celebrate Fat Tuesday at Immanuel's Annual Pancake Supper beginning at 6 PM on March 4th in the Parish Hall. Feast on pancakes, hominy made by our own "Hominy Hon," sausage, fruit, and the Stewart-Sicking's traditional ice cream sundaes. The fee is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. All proceeds from the Pancake Supper will once again be combined with donations to the Souper Bowl of Caring to benefit The Ark, a state-accredited preschool for homeless children in Baltimore City, supported by the Episcopal Community Services of Maryland.

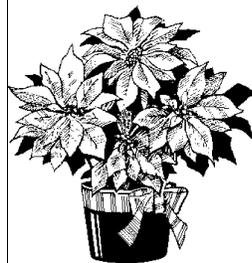
Bring your family and friends for a festive evening. Look for the *Mardi Gras Table* in the Parish Hall vestibule at this year's Christmas Pageant. It helps with planning to know your intentions, so please reserve your spots in advance. One can also call Mary Jane Shanks at 410-557-6047 or email mjshanks@zoominternet.net.

A flyer will appear in upcoming newsletters and on the website beginning in January. Print it out to give to friends. There will be some flyers in the Parish Hall and at the church entrance, too.

WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP! Mary Jane will be emailing some of you to schedule servers, flippers, mixers, and for setup and cleanup. There will also be a Volunteer Sheet at the *Mardi Gras Table*. Please sign-up.

After supper, sometime between 7 and 7:30 PM, we will parade over to the church for a special service. We hope to see you all there.

Mary Jane Shanks



***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 **Monday, December 16th**. 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

Parish Luncheon - *Note of thanks*

Thanks to all who brought something to share for the Parish Luncheon on November 3, 2013 especially to Chuck Gilbert and Doug Whatley for the wonderful brisket and pulled pork. Immanuel has some wonderful cooks. Also thank you to Bobbie Ensor, Mary Jane and Ashby Shanks, and Liz Sieck for setting up and to everyone who helped clean up. Thanks to Liz Sieck for the beautiful flowers.

Linda Ambrose
WOI President

Property Perusal

The Property Committee continues to maintain a watchful eye over the Church's physical plant. We are now implementing some needed electrical and plumbing improvements that will address several long-standing concerns (outdoor safety lighting, acid neutralizer, Rectory heating, etc.).

We had our annual Fall Clean-Up event with our loyal and productive Boy Scout Troop on Saturday, November 23rd. We cannot begin to thank our Troop enough for all the work they have

volunteered over the years helping us all keep our grounds clean and beautiful.

Thank you to all who have assisted the Property Committee in our collective efforts to keep our little sanctuary on the hill a special place for all of us...and please know that we are always looking for new volunteers to join our merry band.

Noby Powell
Property Committee

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VESTRY MEETINGS

Annual Meeting Notes

Members of our Parish met in the church following our morning worship on Sunday, Nov. 10 for our Annual Meeting. The Rector presided, and Michele O'Connor was elected to a 3-year term on our Vestry. We heard that Peggy Taliaferro has submitted her resignation from the Vestry, effective the end of 2013, and Megan+ has accepted it with gratitude for her service. The congregation learned that our Vestry intends, at its next meeting, to elect Darcy Turner to fill the remaining one year of Peggy Taliaferro's Vestry term.

Chad Crowe, representing the Property Committee, and our Rector reviewed the varied and current maintenance issues on our campus.

Megan+ reported that the children's choir will practice and perform intermittently this program year because of the busy schedules of most of the children who have been its main singers. Our adult choir still needs volunteer members from our congregation, and it welcomes singers who can join them for only a season or other limited period of time. In the spring, there will be an Amateur Choir Sunday when people who have wondered what it would be like to be in a choir and fear they might not qualify for a choir will be able to practice and sing as our Choir for that Sunday.

Our Rector explained that, each week, our Sunday School classes begin by reviewing where we are in the church year. The Middle School and younger children are studying Bible stories from September until sometime in January 2014. Then, they will study the Church, prayer, Gospel stories,

and other topics until the program year ends in May.

Megan+ informed us that several older children and a couple of adults in our parish intend to be confirmed this spring. Because of the resignation, effective the end of 2013, of the Assistant Bishop in our Diocese, the Rector is presently working with the diocese to schedule another Bishop to visit Immanuel Church sometime this spring. Megan+ further stated she expects our parish to have a big confirmation class in a couple of years.

Chuck Gilbert, Parish Treasurer, announced that our 2013 income has been higher than projected a year ago. He reported that our expenses this year have been considerably lower than budgeted a year ago. He passed out pages with a much summarized statement of where church finances stand. The 2014 budget assumes an increase of several thousand dollars in contributions.

Our 2014 budget has much higher personnel costs because of the hope to increase The Rector's position to three-quarters time, and because of our commitment to bring the Director of Music Ministries' pay and benefits in line with the guidelines of the American Guild of Organists.

The Rector stated her extraordinary gratitude to Rudi Horner who has joyfully and skillfully served as Senior Warden since 2007, including during the search for a new Rector and during the transition with Megan+ as our new Rector. Rudi will step down at our November 12 Vestry meeting when Liz Sieck will be sworn in as our new Senior Warden. During the service, Rudi was presented with a framed water color of the church, including a plaque indicating her name, position, and years served.

Megan+ expressed much appreciation to Nelly Perkins who served six years as Parish Registrar until earlier this year when she agreed to serve on the Vestry, to fill the term of Deborah Cunningham who resigned when elected as our new Registrar. During the service, Nelly was presented with a gift certificate.

Megan+ remarked that our landscaping must be re-visited because there are some large bushes which are no longer thriving, sometimes because they have outgrown their spaces. Additionally, in future months, there might be planting of some flowers that will be useful to our Flower Guild in decorating our church. She pointed out that our large sign at the bottom of our hill is badly weather-damaged and no longer holds very

useful, correct information. With the Frank Palmer, III, Memorial Gifts to Immanuel, that sign will be replaced in some months with a new, informative, welcoming sign.

At the end of the meeting, our Rector inquired if anyone had questions. Nobody had any questions. Cynthia Ballard took the opportunity to invite anybody who wishes to volunteer in any capacity on Sundays, behind the scenes or as part of the worship service, to talk with her about which volunteer activities interest that individual.

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October Vestry Notes

Our Vestry met on Tuesday, Oct. 8 for the monthly business meeting. We learned that the Parish's 2012 audit is on-going, being performed by a Committee of qualified members of our church. Chuck Gilbert, Parish Treasurer, had prepared a detailed, proposed budget for 2014. He pointed out that expenses such as heating oil and snow removal ultimately depend very much on the weather, not on our willingness to be thrifty. The Vestry discussed and approved the proposed budget for next year.

Plastering and painting repairs to the ceiling and upper wall of the Narthex of our church are being performed by volunteer members of the Property Committee. Earlier, a professional had to repair inside the ceiling and wall where water had long leaked very slowly into the bell tower and down to that wall.

Our 2013 budget has \$270 remaining in the Parish's general outreach fund. The Rector suggested, and then the Vestry voted to authorize, that as much of this money as necessary be spent by our Youth Group to purchase items to fill gift bags for residents of the Catonsville Boys Home, and to designate that any leftover money be put with the Parish's Christmas offering.

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November Vestry Notes

The Vestry met again on Nov. 12, 2013, at which time it elected Liz Seick to fulfill the position of Senior Warden. Liz took the oath as Senior Warden of our Parish. The Vestry then elected Darcy Turner to fill the unexpired Vestry term of Peggy Taliaferro whose last meeting is in December.

Megan remarked that we had discussed increased security on our campus after the tragic shooting last year at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Ellicott City, but we had not taken action. Because our church's isolated location, it's not readily seen by people from outside the neighborhood who may genuinely need help or people who might be troubled and inclined to act angry or threatening. However, its isolated location will, likewise, leave an employee or a volunteer alone when such a person does drop by.

The Property Committee will explore options for an inexpensive, very local intercom system to permit somebody working alone in the Parish Office to discover who's arrived before letting them into the office itself. Our Property Committee will investigate with the electrician who's doing some work on our campus what he offers as far as installing inexpensive cameras that permit someone in the church office or the Rectory to observe outside.

We now have \$1,486,784 in the church's investment funds.

Our Parish has received pledges for next year, totaling nearly \$119,000 from 52 families or individuals. The Vestry and officers divided the names of those who have not replied to our Pledge Drive 2014 mailing, so we can contact members individually. Somebody might have mailed, weeks ago, a pledge that was never received, and some members may ask for duplicate pledge cards. This way, the Vestry should understand well at our December meeting how much has actually been pledged for 2014.

Our Property Committee presented an estimate from the plumber and heating contractor recommended by Oldfields School. The heating work involves draining the boiler in the Rectory in order to replace 3 radiator valves with thermostatic radiator valves. The Rectory has two different heating systems operating on two sides of the house which act very differently on the first and second stories of their own section. This work is to correct a situation where one room can be beastly hot when another is profoundly chilly.

The plumbing work is divided among the Parish Hall, the undercroft of the church, and the upstairs of the Rectory. The work totals the purchase and installation of four new toilets and replacing the shut-off valves for each replacement toilet. There will be four old toilets left working, between the Rectory and Parish Hall. The Vestry voted to authorize up to \$4500 for the total of these

heating and plumbing jobs.

The Property Committee received an estimate from a recommended electrician to install three hard-wired, UL-listed stems and tiered post lights to illuminate the outdoor church steps and ramp after dark. A photo eye will keep the lights off in daylight and on in the dark. In addition, we will get a six-hour timer switch for the church's interior and exterior entrance, to replace a brief timer switch.

The electrician will provide and install a toggle switch to replace the failing dimmer switch in the activities area of the Parish Hall. The non-working time clock controlling the exterior light at the kitchen entrance of the Parish Hall will be replaced by a new, working time clock. The electrician, furthermore, will provide a replacement for the non-working pole light fixture next to the Parish Hall. This LED light fixture will be brighter than what formerly lit the outside of that entrance. Moreover, it's eligible for a BGE rebate.

The Vestry voted \$1140 for all of this electrical work that's planned for the near future.

The church has lightweight, folding tables for use in our Parish Hall, but a few have been lost to damage in the years we've owned them. Therefore, the Vestry voted up to \$250 to purchase four more tables of the same size and type. Members of the Property Committee and Vestry agreed to shop for them.

On annual Autumn Cleanup Day, our Boy Scout Troop will be asked to power wash waste baskets from inside the church and Parish Hall, in addition to everything they usually do.

The Vestry voted to designate half of our Christmas offering donations to Episcopal Relief and Development for the Philippines, following the devastating storm there. The other half of the collection will go to Hereford Food Bank, which has experienced numerous families coming to it for the first time, and other local food banks.

At the end of the meeting, Vestry members, officers, and our Rector moved chairs into place for our November 17 Worship Service of Praise in the Parish Hall.

- Deborah Cunningham
Registrar

2014 Episcopal Calendars are now here!!

Please stop by the Parish Hall and pick yours up today. As always, thanks to Mr. Jay Huff of Brooks-Huff Tire & Auto Centers for providing us with our calendars each year. (The Rector also offers a personal recommendation for Brooks-Huff due to their recent, speedy replacement of her failing tires on very short notice, and their excellent service during many visits!)

From the Office:

Reminder: My office hours are Mon. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Wed. and Thurs. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 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:
Dary@ImmanuelGlencoe.org

Dary Schmidt - Your Parish Administrator

Newsletter Deadlines

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

The *second Monday* of even months.

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
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. Melissa Whatley, Bookkeeper, Melissa@ImmanuelGlencoe.org

Vestry and Officers

Liz Sieck, Senior Warden, Doug Whatley, Junior Warden,
Chuck Gilbert, Treasurer, Deborah Cunningham, Registrar,
Linda Ambrose, Betty Cummings, Andy Crosby,
Chad Crowe, Michele O'Connor, Nelly Perkins,
Betsy Powell, Suzanne Supplee, and Darcy Turner



North County Santa Breakfast

Saturday, December 7th 7:00-11:00am

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.

Kringle's Bakeshop ~ The Grinch's Evergreens

Enjoy a family meal in the beautiful rustic setting of the Camp Puh'tok Lodge. As you sit by one of two fireplaces, you will enjoy a scrumptious breakfast of Belgian waffles, pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, and buscuit and gravy!

Take home a protrait of your family with Santa. And, what child (or adult) can resist a personal visit with Santa this time of year?

Children 5 years of age and younger eat free!

Enjoy holiday story telling with a professional storyteller. For a small fee, kids can have fun with holiday games, crafts and princess manicures.



Tickets may be purchased at the door, by mail using the form below, at Wegman's Hunt Valley, or from any member of Troop 485

Ample parking with shuttle service to the lodge will be provided!

Purchase your tickets by mail and save \$2 off the door price.



Questions? Call Bob Ryan at 410-472-2748



**To buy your tickets in advance, send your check payable to "Boy Scout Troop 485" by November 30:
North County Santa Breakfast, P.O. Box 327, Sparks, MD 21152**

Ticket orders by mail will receive 2 FREE GAME coupons!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ @ \$10.00 each = Total Price \$ _____

Number of Tickets: _____ @ FREE (age 5 and under)

Or Visit *Wegmans* in Hunt Valley to Buy Tickets

WRAPPING THINGS UP

Christmas Gifts for Catonsville Children's Home

**Sunday, December 8, 2013
After Coffee Hour In Parish Hall**

Once again this year, the Women of Immanuel will join Immanuel's Youth Group and the congregation in giving gifts to boys at the Catonsville Children's Home. Each boy will receive items from his wish list, such as socks or t-shirts, a jar of candy, and a gift card. We hope the entire congregation will support this effort.

The youth group will shop to buy wish list items and the candy. Mother Megan and Jen will coordinate this part of the gift giving with the youth group and their parents.

Other members of our congregation are encouraged to donate gift cards purchased at Walmart, Target, or iTunes. To insure equality, we are asking those interested to donate gift cards totaling up to \$50, with each gift card not to exceed \$25 in value. Gift card donations should be returned to one of the following no later than Sunday morning, December 8: Donna Sieverts, Mary Jane Shanks, Linda Ambrose, or Dary at the church office. Following the services on December 8th, the members of WOI and the Youth Group (and anyone else who would like to join us) will meet in the Parish Hall after the coffee hour to put the gift bags together.

Thank you for your generosity and support in past years, and we hope you will join us in giving this year.

Thank You for Your Support,

WOI, a part of the Parish Fellowship
Committee

YOUTH GROUP
(See Youth Leaders)



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CONGREGATION



**UP TO \$50 (each card
not to exceed \$25)
DUE BY 12/8/13**



Immanuel Parish Christmas Celebration

December 27, 2013

Family Friendly Supper – 5:45pm - Parish Hall

(pizza, salad, dessert)

\$3.00 donation/person suggested

Sunday School Pageant in Parish Hall - 7:00 pm

RSVP for Supper by December 19, 2013

410-472-2828 or sign up in the Parish Hall



Immanuel Episcopal Church
1509 Glencoe Road
Glencoe, MD 21152
www.ImmanuelGlencoe.org