

The Caller



IPC Leadership

PASTOR:

Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price

ELDERS:

- Jamie Amber 538-5460 (Worship)
- Mark Anderson 538-5054 (Building & Grounds)
- Candace Arlian 351-7488 (Youth Education)
- Elsie Eckman 388-6754 (Stewardship & Pledge Clerk)
- Sandy Haldane 538-5052 (Clerk of Session)
- Gale Smoke 444-4079 (Mission Committee)
- Laurence Evengue-Zeh 310-6595 (Christian Education)

DEACONS:

- Sharon Arlian 333-6860
- Linda Green 333-7182
- Rozann Kimpton 907-376-7322

TREASURER: Diane Marquiss
563-7352

Holy Week

April 14 11:00am

Palm Sunday Worship

April 18: 6:00pm

Maundy Thursday
with potluck dinner,
worship service and
communion in the
fellowship hall.

April 19:

Good Friday

April 21 11:00am

Easter Worship fol-
lowed by Triennium
Fund-Raising Brunch
at noon in the fellow-
ship hall.



The Pastor's Page

In mid-March, I spent three days in Seattle at the NEXT church gathering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This event brings people together from across the country to participate in worship, listen to speakers, and attend workshops dealing with various concerns as we discern how God is calling the church into the future. According to the organization's website, NEXT Church is a network of church leaders who believe the church of the future will be more relational, more diverse, more collaborative, more hopeful and more agile. It is a movement seeking to strengthen the relational fabric of the PC(USA) so that our congregations are strong and healthy enough to be a sustained, effective, faithful and moral voice that is engaged in the transformation of our communities toward the common good.

What I most appreciated about the gathering was that NEXT church sought to embody this self-description. Instead of just talking about diversity, the

NEXT church leadership made a commitment to being at least 50% minority and they held themselves to that, so that the leadership board is a vibrant mix of races and genders and backgrounds. The keynote speakers included a Native American mission worker, an African-American church leader, and a white lesbian Baptist sociologist. During the closing worship service, three women of color stood at the communion table, celebrating the sacrament. That image spoke more powerfully than any slogans about diversity ever could.

Instead of just talking about an agile church, the conference modeled agility, adjusting to meet needs as they occurred, such as when food ran out for lunches on the first day of the event! We heard from the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Seattle, where the gathering was held, about how their congregation is finding new ways to do ministry in a building which used to hold 500 people that now finds fewer than 40 in worship - half of

the facility is currently used as transitional housing for those seeking to escape homelessness, while the long-term plan is to sell the building and use the funds to develop sustainable ministry.

I share the hope that NEXT Church proclaims that the future of the church will be "more relational, more diverse, more collaborative, more hopeful and more agile." I long for that church to come to fruition, and I saw a glimpse of it at this gathering. I also glimpse it on many Sundays at Immanuel, when I look out over a congregation of young and old, black and white, gay and straight, and everything in between, all worshipping God together. I pray that as a congregation, we can find ways - such as making use of the resources offered by NEXT church - to be an "effective, faithful and moral voice that is engaged in the transformation of our community" for the good of God's world.

In hope,

Ellen

Gambell Presbyterian Church

The Presbytery of Yukon and the Gambell Presbyterian Church invite you to attend the Dedication Celebration of the newly constructed building on May 26, 2019 in Gambell. The Celebration will include worship, an open house, and fellowship with the Gambell community. Please RSVP to the Presbytery office if you plan to attend and look for more information in the Presbytery newsletter which can be found at:

<https://pbyukon.org/newsletters.html>

Your Newest Ruling Elder

I'm Elsie Eckman and I moved to Anchorage a little over three years ago. I have been involved in church since I was a little girl, starting out with the Baptist denomination, then after a family move I started attending a Friends church - my Mother had an upbringing in that denomination because her parents were Friends pastors in Northwest Alaska. Fast forward to the late 90s, my

husband & I & our younger children started attending a Presbyterian church in Delta Junction. Since then I've worshiped with Presbyterians.

I became a member of IPC in late 2017, then in 2018 I was asked if I would consider being an elder on session, and after prayer and thought I agreed. I am now head of the Stewardship committee and

will help out by taking over duties of the Pledge clerk. At the end of the summer the committee will work on pledge forms and getting them distributed to members. I will also be involved with the audit of the church records. In addition I'll be helping with a revision of Immanuel's bylaws.

If you have any questions or interest in helping out in any of these areas, please let me know.

In Christ, Elsie Eckman

Immanuel Youth Group

Hello all we are having some fun things for the youth this year. This year is triennial Presbyterian Youth Triennium and we have two youth from our church going this summer. As a result there will be at least two fund raising events.

On Easter Sunday April 21 David Weaver is leading the planning for a donation brunch to help raise money. So please bring an appetite and I hope you donate generously. Then on Sunday May 19th there will be a Wash-as-you-Worship. Myself and the youth will be washing the cars in our parking lot for donations to support the youth going. Also there are Triennium bonds for sale. The idea is that you fill out a dona-

tion form and then when the youth are at Triennium they will send postcards or texts to everyone who bought bonds.

I also attended the winter meeting of the Yukon Presbytery. The main focus was on stewardship of our planet. Both in taking better care of the world given to us, as well as our neighbors. I am happy to report that every church in our Presbytery is going green in their own way.

The Intergenerational Arctic Ministries or I AM has started the next step of the listening way program now that they are fully funded. They will begin by people in three different villages on the north slope to help and counsel people in

need that reside in their communities. The goal is that by the end of the year there will be counselors in 10 villages and that the counselors will be able meet up 4 times a year to compare and express concerns. This would be done in the hope of finding solutions that will work in their situations.

The Presbytery of the Yukon also voted and agreed to write a letter to Governor Dunleavy about his proposed budget, as well as write a different letter to politicians down in the capital.

By the end of the meeting we still had a several thing to still vote on, so as a result there is to be a teleconference on May 30th to finish up the meeting.

In Christ, Candace Arlian

NEEDED: Presbytery Support

The Presbytery of Yukon consists of 21 churches throughout Alaska. Its boundaries are from Barrow in the north to Anchorage in the south, from Kaktovik in the east to Gambell in the west. Just as funds are required to keep each church operating it takes funds to keep the Presbytery operating. Every church used to contribute to two funds in support of the Presbytery as well as PCUSA nationally. Those contributions were in the form of Presbytery Fair Share and Per Capita. The amounts contributed to these two different funds were determined by the

number of voting members a church had and other methodologies. About two years ago our Presbytery decided it was in its best interest to combine these two funds, thus becoming Presbytery Support. Immanuel has figured its share of Presbytery Support is about \$90.00 per member. We ask that those of you who are members prayerfully consider contributing to Immanuel's share of Presbytery Support, again \$90.00. If you are not a voting member of Immanuel we still urge you to contribute to this fund and help us offset Immanuel's budgeted contribution to this fund. Any and all amounts would be very gratefully appreciated. In

addition to offsetting the general operating expenses of the Presbytery such as the salary of the Executive Presbyter and administrative support, some of these funds go towards supporting the following activities of our Presbytery.

- Gambell new church building
- Heating oil for villages such as Kaktovik, Savoonga, Gambell, Wainwright
- The Permanent Endowment mission Fund
- Anchorage Native Fellowship
- Commissioned lay pastor training and continuing education
- Travel costs to and from the villages
- General Operating

Mission Committee

When I was elected as an elder last December and became a member of the Session once again, I was pleased to become the chair of the Mission Committee. I have actually been a member of the committee for a dozen years and think its work is very important.

The Mission Committee meets bimonthly and the meetings are usually held on the third Sunday of the even months. However, in April, our meeting will be on the second Sunday – April 14th – because of Easter falling on the 21st. And everyone is welcome to attend our meeting.

We also encourage members and friends of our church to contribute to the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s major offerings and, of course, on Easter we collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and we certainly encourage you to give generously to that and we will present several Moments of Mission to explain what it supports.

We're also encouraging people to support the Youth Triennium, which occurs in the summer. Two of our youth are going and they need our financial support since it is expensive traveling to Indiana where it is held.

We also will be thinking of expanding our Mission and assisting other nonprofits at our April 14th meeting and this discussion

will be very important.

In May, the Deacons Offering will be taken on Mother's Day, May 12th, and we encourage you to give generously to that.

Also, in May, we will be collecting money so we can go to Costco and buy food so we can give the teachers and staff at Nunaka Valley Elementary a nice breakfast on their last day, which falls on May 23rd. With the earthquake and the Governor's budget looming, it has been a particularly difficult year for them and they need our support.

Keep all of this in mind during the next couple of months.

In Christ, Gale Smoke

Ensuring our Future Through Endowment

The Endowment Committee met on 2/10 and 3/10. The Session and the Endowment resolved to the following:

- * To transfer of 50% of the earnings of the fund in 2017 to the church's budget for this year (2019). Mark Anderson, Mark Green, Sara Johnston, and Candace Arlian will be the traders on the Endowment fund. They will be able to guide the investment of Endowment Fund. We need to have 'traders' and 'signers' who can access the fund and make these types of transfers.
- * The late Nancy Brace, a donor to the fund, wanted Immanuel to cre-

ate a playground for children. Gale Smoke will work with interested Church members to accomplish this goal.

- * An evaluation of our leaky roof will be done and repairs as needed. Those repairs will be funded by the Endowment Fund.
- * Given the annual rotation of members off the committee, a plan for engaging new potential committee members was discussed. Duties of members and the mission of the endowment fund will be explained. The time commitment and potential

future activities of members will also be outlined.

- * On 4/6, Rob Hagan, a representative of the Presbyterian Foundation will be offering two workshops in Wasilla, which are relevant to the Planned Giving Navigator (see reports of earlier meetings). Rozann Kimpton intends to attend these workshops.

Due to conflicts with other meetings, the next meeting of the Endowment Committee will be on 5/12. If you have, please ask one of the Committee members: Mark Anderson, Rozann Kimpton, or Gale Smoke.

In Christ, Mark Anderson

Planned Vacancy

Immanuel is looking for someone to take on the responsibilities of the Treasurer. Our faithful Treasurer Diane Marquiss needs to step aside due to increasing personal obligations—mainly she has a new job which requires her to work more hours and she often has to work on Sundays when Session meets. The Treasurer does not have to stay for the entire Session meeting rather they stay long enough to give a report on our bank accounts. The Treasurer does participate in the Session's annual budget planning meeting and its annual financial audit. This position does not require you to be an Elder or Deacon. It does require monitoring our budget using an electronic budget program (computer provided) and paying bills. There is no handling of money. It is estimated that being Immanuel's Treasurer requires about 4 hours per month of work. We implore any of you who believes you have a talent for managing funds and paying bills, PLEASE help us out. Diane has done an incredible job for the past 17 (?) years—yep that's right, a long time, and it really is time to give her a break and for someone else to step up.

Keeping God's Creation *GREEN*



clable and where it is recyclable.

PLEASE review carefully so you'll

We hear all the time: What is and isn't recyclable?

So here's a quick and dirty on what is and is not recy-

know what to put into our recycle bins at Immanuel and what NOT to put in our recycle bins. God's trusty servant and Immanuel's faithful Building Manager Norm Schlittler and his faithful right-hand helper, Jane are the people who dispose of Immanuel's recycle. That's right, Immanuel's recycle does NOT get

picked up at the curbside—it has to be hauled off by others and those haulers are Norm and Jane. THANK YOU Norm and Jane!!! We have no doubt that Norm and Jane would appreciate others helping in this effort, so please talk with them about what role you can play in our efforts to be a greener congregation.



NOT ACCEPTABLE

Styrofoam

Plastic film/wrap

Cartons (i.e. milk or egg-beaters)

#3-7 Plastic containers

Greasy or dirty food containers (i.e. pizza boxes, oriental food containers)

Paper plates, bowls, napkins



ACCEPTABLE

#1 Plastic clam shell containers (i.e. fruit) - acceptable at curbside ONLY

#1 Plastic bottles & jars (NO lids/caps)

#2 Plastic jugs & bottles (i.e. milk, detergent, shampoo)

Mixed paper

Flattened card-board

Aluminum, steel, tin cans

Glass (any color) at drop-off recycling center ONLY

Plastic grocery bags at drop-off recycling center ONLY

CLEAN tin foil at drop-off recycling center ONLY



Add your voice Join our Immanuel choir as it rejoices in song through this Easter season. ALL are welcome! Rehearsal this Wednesday 4/3 at 7:15pm in the sanctuary.



YUMMY!

Pancake brunch: Sunday 4/21 at noon, following worship service. Donations welcome. All proceeds will go to support our youth going to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Indiana later in the summer.



Local Entertainment

Looking for some local, inexpensive entertainment? Bartlett High School drama department presents its last show of the school year: *The Battling Bartlett Bears*. Touted as not a play, but a show, opening night is Thursday 4/4 at 7pm in the Bartlett Theater. Repeat performances are Friday 4/5 and Saturday 4/6 at 7pm. Cost is only \$5.00. Support our Anchorage high school talent, and of course our very own Immanuelite-Stevie Anderson.

On Being a Deacon

I am learning and enjoying my new role as deacon and wanted to share what we do. **Rozann Kimpton** is our official *flower lady* and has done a wonderful job with this! **Sarah Weaver** is in charge of organizing the *care team*, those who are willing to prepare food and generally help those in need. She also handles the *deacon finances*. **Sharon Arlian** is the brains behind the deacons efforts and **keeps written track** of what needs to be done. My role will gradually become clear as we move through the church year! This is a terrific group of willing and able people and I am honored to be a part of their efforts. Feel free to contact any of us!

In Christ, **Linda Green** (your newest deacon)

Our Building & Its Grounds

IPC members continue to do an excellent job keeping up with and paying the cleaning costs. We thank you!

The elevator was closed for a little while, but thanks to Norm, and the elevator repair company, it was only closed for a short period of time. During the biannual municipal inspection, the municipal inspector pointed out a code violation that must be corrected. Apparently, it has been a violation that has been in existence since the elevator was installed years ago and must be fixed. The elevator repair company will be called to do the repair. Then we will be able to get

our latest permit. Thanks Norm!

Coming up: the roof has to be inspected and then repaired. This will be a joint effort between Building and Grounds and the Endowment fund. Building and Grounds Committee will find and provide the roofing contractor expertise and Endowment Committee will make the funds available from the Endowment fund.

You may not have noticed by there is a tree in the forest that is leaning over the north fence and it must be removed.

Although we have not heard of a mission group coming to IPC this summer, we are

compiling a list of activities and repairs that need to be done. If you have any suggested projects that you would like to see done, please let the committee know.

Lastly, DO NOT wash or scrape any food scraps into the sink's garbage disposal. Bowls and plates with any food on them should first be scraped into the trash then placed in the dish washer. In other words, the sinks should be thought of as normal drains, meaning don't put anything down the drains that you would not put in a normal drain.

In Christ, Mark Anderson

JOYFUL HELPING

We all love to eat and enjoy fellowship over soup, cookies, coffee, tea, and snacks, but, there is also considerable clean-up required after the eating and fellowship-ing. If you are one who doesn't usually bring the eats, we need you to help clean. Every week one of our families creates and brings fabulous fare to share. They do so with a joyful heart. Let's help the cooks out by helping with the clean-up so they don't have to. Clean-up is on the sign up sheet, but we often see that people are not signing up for that task. Please, help by doing your share. Thank you!

Fellowship Clean-Up Tasks

- ⇒ Wipe down tables w/antibacterial wipes
- ⇒ Brush crumbs off chairs
- ⇒ Turn off coffee pots and rinse
- ⇒ Unplug hot water
- ⇒ Wipe down coffee counter w/antibacterial wipes
- ⇒ Sweep or vacuum fellowship hall
- ⇒ Empty large trash can by taking it out to the garbage outside & replace w/clean bag.



Hello Immanuel Gardeners! It looks like Spring is coming early this year. If you are interested in one of our 8 garden plots please email Sarah Weaver at: Sarahdweaver@yahoo.com



Immanuel Presbyterian Church

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Email: IPCAnchorage@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.ipcanchorage.com>



Join Us....

Through Sunday 5/19:

- Adult Forum 10am
- Children & Youth
Sunday School: 10am
- Sunday Worship 11am
- Soup, Cookies, Fellowship: Noon

Beginning Sunday 5/26
until after Labor Day:

- No Forum or Sunday School
- Worship 10am
- Coffee, Tea, Light Snack & Fellowship 11am

Our Mission: *We believe... that all people are children of God and affirm the worth and dignity of all races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations. Recognizing we are an increasingly diverse culture and that there are differences among us, we make a commitment to lovingly accept our diversity, as did Christ, with respect, compassion, understanding, and love. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of this church.*



We share the House of the Lord with:

Arise & Shine Assembly of God: led by Rev. Tuiolemotu (Tui), meets in Immanuel's Sanctuary on Sunday evenings. For more information, call 907-406-1805.

Metropolitan Community Church Last Frontier: led by Rev. Denise Sudbeck, meets in Immanuel's Sanctuary on Sunday at 3:00pm. For more information, call 907-764-1954

Totem AA: meets in Immanuel's Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Tuesday, & Friday evenings. For more information call 907-229-8341

Early Spring

By Ranier Maria Rilke

Harshness vanished. A sudden softness has replaced the meadows' wintry grey. Little rivulets of water changed their singing accents. Tendernesses,

hesitantly, reach toward the earth from space, and country lanes are showing these unexpected subtle risings that find expression in the empty trees.



An Easter Flower Gift

by John Greenleaf Whittier

O dearest bloom the seasons know,
Flowers of the Resurrection blow,
Our hope and faith restore;
And through the bitterness of death
And loss and sorrow, breathe a breath
Of life forevermore!

The thought of Love Immortal blends
With fond remembrances of friends;
In you, O sacred flowers,
By human love made doubly sweet,
The heavenly and the earthly meet,
The heart of Christ and ours!

Mark Your Calendar

April 3: Buildings & Grounds committee meeting 5:30pm; Choir rehearsal 7:15pm

April 10: Christians for Equality lunch at First Presbyterian Church 11:30am-1:00pm

April 14: Palm Sunday; Mission committee meeting after worship; Joint youth group at Immanuel 1-3pm

April 15: Men's Night Out at TBA 6:30pm

April 18: Maundy Thursday, Potluck dinner and worship with communion 6:00pm

April 19: Good Friday

April 21: Easter. No Sunday school or

Adult Forum; Worship 11:00am, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering; Pancake brunch (fundraiser for Youth Triennium) after worship

April 28: Session meeting after worship

May 1: Buildings & Grounds committee meeting 5:30pm

May 12: Deacons' Offering (Mothers' Day); Endowment committee meeting after worship

May 19: Last day of Sunday School and Adult Forum; "Wash While You Worship" car wash fundraiser for Triennium

May 20: Men's Night Out at TBD 6:30pm

May 26: Begin summer schedule (10am Worship, followed by coffee hour fellowship)

BIRTHDAYS

April 9: Barbe Neeson, Ezric Evengue

April 14: Maria Ashworth

April 16: Luke Ashworth

April 25: Enaasey Jacobs

May 8: Damian MacInness-Green

May 9: Grace Ashworth, Ruben Silva

May 16: Lily Weaver

May 17: Josh Collins, Mary Charlotte McCall

May 20: Daveon Jacobs

May 22: Sara Johnston

May 25: Victoria Natanus Grubbs

May 29: Beth Van Order