



The Caller

Immanuel Presbyterian Church

The Pastor's Page

This summer, on the last Sunday of each month, we will worship in the Taizé style. Located in southeastern France, Taizé is an ecumenical monastic community which strives to be a living example of Christian unity. Founded by Brother Roger, a Roman Catholic originally from Switzerland, the community began during World War II and some of its first work was to shelter refugees fleeing from occupied France and later to care for children whose parents had been killed during the war. Today, the community consists of over 100 brothers, Catholics and Protestants of various backgrounds, representing around 30 nationalities (www.taize.fr).

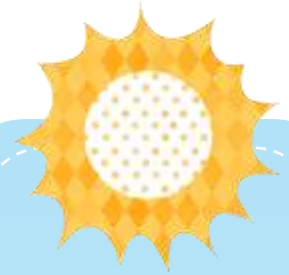
In addition to the members of the monastic community who reside there, Taizé attracts large numbers of teenagers and young adults from around the world who come to spend a week or an entire summer participating in communal life. Young people spend their time at Taizé engaged in worship, study, and service. Families and church leaders are also regularly welcomed at Taizé.

But perhaps what has made the Taizé community most widely known is its music. In order to create a worship setting in which people from many nations could easily participate, Brother Roger began to write simple, chant-like songs in many languages. The words are usually short phrases or sentences from Scripture, set to a simple melody, and there are songs in several different languages including Latin (which equalizes all singers, as it is the native language of none!). Taizé-style worship services include prayers, readings from Scripture, and music sung repetitively to create a meditative effect.

I was first introduced to music from Taizé during college and immediately loved it. I was able to spend a week in Taizé in the summer after my first year of seminary, and was profoundly moved by participating in the worship services there and hearing 2000 voices joining together in songs of all languages. I look forward to Taizé style worship services at Immanuel this summer and hope that we may be inspired by the spirit of Christian unity they represent.

Peace, Shalom, Paix, Friede, Paz, Maluhia, Pax

Ellen



In & About IPC....

Summer Worship Schedule

- *Worship Service: 10:00 am*
- *Light continental breakfast at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall*

IPC Session

- *Moderator: Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price*
- *Business Affairs: David Weaver*
- *Christian Education: Heather MacAlpine & Laurence Zeh-Evengue*
- *Clerk: Sandy Haldane*
- *Mission: Herb Turner*
- *Pledge Clerk: Heather MacAlpine*
- *Worship: Sara Johnston*
- *Treasurer: Diane Marquiss*

IPC Board of Deacons

- *Patti Collins*
- *Rozanne Kimpton*
- *Gale Smoke*
- *Sarah Weaver*



It's not too late to register —

The Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Alaska-Northwest

2016 Gathering:

“One Body – One Spirit”

Thursday June 16, 4 – 8 pm;

Friday June 17, 9 am – 8 pm,

Saturday June 18, 9 am – 1 pm

First Presbyterian Church Wasilla



Adult Education: Time For a Change?

Do you love coming to Adult Forum and want to influence the form it takes in the future? Or maybe you've never attended but want to find out more? Or maybe you'd enjoy participating (or even leading!) a mid-week Bible study or monthly book discussion group? If any of these describe you, or if you have any interest in adult education whatsoever, please come to the ADULT EDUCATION CONVERSATION on Sunday, July 10, immediately following worship (it will last no more than an hour). The Christian Education committee would like as much input as possible as we plan for the fall. We'll discuss the current format of the Adult Forum and how/if that should change, brainstorm other possible ways to offer ongoing faith formation to adults in our congregation, and find out where people's interests lie. Please join us for this important conversation!

What Does it Mean to be Presbyterian?

Have you recently started attending Immanuel and are interested in finding out more about our congregation and what it means to be Presbyterian? Or have you been attending for awhile but never became an official member? Either way, now is your opportunity to learn more! Rev. Ellen will be leading a "membership" class on Mondays, June 13 and June 27, from 6:30-8:30pm at the church. The class will be a way to find out more about what we believe as Christians, what it means to be Presbyterian, and how all of that comes together in the unique community of Immanuel. At the end of the class, participants will be invited to join the congregation, but that isn't required in order to attend the class! All are welcome (even current members) who want to learn more about the church and get to know other interested people as well.

Keeping & Respecting God's Place

Immanuel's clean-up day in May was a roaring success! Thank you to all who showed up to help – what a difference EACH of YOU made. Also, a very special note of thanks to members of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga and of Totem for their assistance with Immanuel's Clean-up Day. There's more to come—i.e. painting. Please continue to help us keep God's place of worship and fellowship clean AND welcoming.

Meet Your Church Leaders *Sara Johnston & Gale Smoke*

Who doesn't know Sara—some of us since she was a toddler or before; and in that time she has been a leader in many capacities at Immanuel. Sara and Aaron Johnston will be celebrating their 10th anniversary this August and they have 2 1/2 children—Kinlee 8; Oakley 6 and Baby Girl Johnston due in September (congrats!). Sara became a Deacon at Immanuel as a teenager and was a Deacon for about two years. She then became an Elder and has been on session all but 1 year since! (That's what we call faith!) Sara is a 3rd generation Immanuelite and is very BUSY raising the 4th! But in addition to being a leader and a mom, she also works as the Business Manager for a local midwifery clinic and birth center, and previously owned an eco-friendly children's store (was in the University Center). Sara attended UAA for early childhood where she finished her Associates Degree in 2007. She's taking a hiatus from finishing her bachelor's. Sara said YES to being a church leader when first asked because she felt a responsibility. She's also led Christian Education, Vacation Bible School, and was active in LOGOS. Currently as a Session member, Sara is in charge of the Worship Committee and is the go-to person on occasions when the Sunday bulletin is needed and has been instrumental in getting the weekly word out about Immanuel happenings!

'GO' is the focus for 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium whose purpose is to prepare 5,000+ young people to 'take their next steps of faith' when they GO home. This five day event for high school age youth is focused on equipping young people to be transformational Christian leaders, helping to call them into deeper discipleship in Jesus Christ. The Youth Triennium is a high energy, biblically infused and focused, youth friendly conference. From opening worship, the 2016 Triennium will explore "GO"

- * The shepherds in Luke 2:8-30 who were terrified when the angel told them to "GO and see" the savior who had been born,
- * The lawyer in Luke 10:25-37 who was encouraged by Jesus to "GO and do likewise," in the parable of the Good Samaritan,
- * King David in Psalm 32 confessing his failures, and then knowing the joy of God's forgiveness, he discerns and is taught "the Way I Should GO,"

- * Moses in Exodus 3-7 (which means "to go") advocating for justice again and again—demanding Pharaoh, who held the Israelites captive in slavery, to "Let My People GO,"
- * And the disciples in Matthew 28:16-20. Even as some doubted what they had seen regarding the resurrection, Jesus came to them on the mountain commanding that they be a part of "God's great GO-mission"—of GOing into the world and making disciples.

As Stevie Anderson GOES off to Triennium along with other kids from around the state, they need your financial support. As a reminder, envelopes are posted downstairs on the bulletin board outside of the children's classroom, each numbered. We ask that you take an envelope and donate the amount of money that corresponds to the number. Thanks to your generosity, over \$200 was raised at the car wash. Eight cars were sparkling by the end of worship!



"GO and see" ... "GO and do likewise" ... "the Way I Should GO" ... "Let My People GO" ... "GO into the world and make disciples."

Your Session at Work

Session is discussing splitting Business Affairs into something along the lines of Buildings & Grounds (B&G) and Finance (FIN). Having B&G and FIN as one committee is too overwhelming for any one person. Splitting however would potentially necessitate adding an Elder to Session. Keep your ears posted as to what transpires.

The Endowment Committee is in full swing with Mark Anderson, Gale Smoke, and Roberta Long. Updates will be in the next Caller.

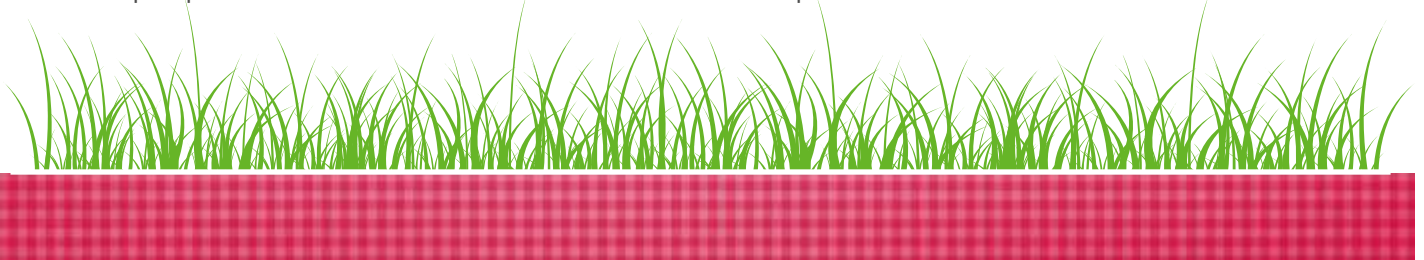
We need your talents during summer worship. Please see Sara Johnston if you would be willing to supply some "special music."

Thank You Immanuelites! We reached 80% of our goal towards our Per Capita amount. If you forgot, we will gladly still accept your \$48 donation to offset our Per Capita portion.

One Great Hour of Sharing offering resulted in over \$1100. Watch the next Caller to see what was generously given for the Pentecost Offering (40% of which will go to Covenant House) and the Deacon's Offering.

FOUR (yes 4) garden plots were reserved by Nunaka Valley Elementary. Herb and Gale delivered breakfast to the teachers on the last day of school; thank you to those of you who contributed towards food. We are exploring what our role could be with the 21st Century School Program next school year at Nunaka, more to come....

Next week Sara Johnston will represent the Presbytery of the Yukon as a delegate to the General Assembly (GA). Please keep her in your prayers for safe travels AND for discernment as the GA tackles "hot topics" and issues.



Meet Your Church Leaders (cont'd. from page 2)

(cont'd. on page 4...)

And who doesn't know Gale Smoke?! June 6th of 2016 marked Gale's 12th anniversary attending Immanuel where he says he found the members and regular attenders at the church to be welcoming and caring from the first ten minutes he "darkened its door." Gale says he found this particularly gratifying because as a gay man he had often found communities of faith forbidding in the past. "That was one reason I joined the church within four months of first attending. Moreover, in December of 2006, after being with the church only 2 1/2 years, the members of the church paid me the honor of electing me as an elder and I ended up serving two terms on the Session." Gale has been active with the Mission Committee – and reports he has Mary Jane Landstrom to thank for that. Being engaged in various outreach projects Gale felt a Call to become a Deacon. Gale says that from the moment he joined the Board of Deacons he has loved the work and has been especially happy with the task of sending cards and flowers to members in need and also celebrating milestones. Gale says he has appreciated the guidance that Pastor Ellen has provided to the Deacons since she was hired "giving more structure to our outreach has been invaluable." And in his words: "To sum it up, I love being a Deacon and I cherish Immanuel Presbyterian Church and the diverse and caring folks who are part of it."

Bishop Gene Robinson at PrideFest Anchorage!

Mark your calendar!

- ◆ **WHAT:** Pre-PrideFest Lecture with Bishop Gene Robinson
- ◆ **WHEN:** Friday, June 17, 7:00 PM, Dessert reception following
- ◆ **WHERE:** Lutheran Church of Hope, 1847 W. Northern Lights

AND....

- ◆ **WHAT: A Conversation w/Bishop Robinson:** Are you or someone you know undecided about their views on LGBT inclusion in the church? Struggling with biblical authority and homosexuality? Wondering about God's call to love all people regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation? Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop consecrated in the Episcopal Church, will moderate an open and frank discussion about these issues for people earnestly seeking to have a better understanding of faith and LGBT inclusion. Who would you like to invite to this event? It is important that the tone and setting for this event allows open conversation. Personal invitations are best. Come along to enhance the richness of this conversation.
- ◆ **WHEN:** Saturday, June 18, 12:30-2:00 pm

- ◆ **WHERE:** Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St.

AND....

- ◆ **WHAT: PrideFest Worship Service w/ Reverend Gene Robinson as the Guest Preacher.**
- ◆ **WHEN:** Sunday, June 19, 11:15 AM
- ◆ **WHERE:** St. John United Methodist Church, 1801 O'Malley Road



Bishop Robinson rocked the Christian world as the first openly gay bishop consecrated in The Episcopal Church in 2003. It was a milestone in that denomination's course to be fully inclusive of LGBT persons

in the life and ministry of the church. He is a longtime and passionate voice for the Holy Gospel's call to compassion, social justice, and discipleship. You are invited to hear and meet Bishop Robinson and welcome him to his first-ever visit to Alaska.

- Bishop Robinson's visit is sponsored by Christians for Equality - Anchorage





BIRTHDAYS

Chris McKnight (6/2)
 Mark Green (6/6)
 Rev. Richard Oman (6/16)
 Frank Haldane (6/21)
 Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price (6/21)
 Kaya Weaver (6/23)
 Stevie Anderson (6/23)
 Jason Paulsen (6/26)
 Collins, Patti (6/30)
 Bill Reiter (7/20)
 Rev. Alice Green (7/21)
 Lauren Green (7/23)
 Heather MacAlpine (7/29)



ANNIVERSARIES

Richard & Mary Ellen Oman 6/3
 Herb & Nes Turner 6/30



PRAYERS

Kathy Haldane and family as she faces recurrent lung cancer

Sara Johnston for safe travels to GA and discernment around issues facing today's church

Calling on You...

Dear Immanuel-ites,

We have two exciting opportunities to participate in special events being held in connection with this year's PrideFest. The first is a public lecture by retired Episcopal bishop Gene Robinson which will be on Friday, June 17 at 7pm at Lutheran Church of Hope.

The second is an event which will be hosted by Immanuel on Saturday, June 18, from 12:30-2pm. We urgently need volunteers to provide food for this event! Sandwiches, finger foods and heavy appetizers are the suggestions. We will also need volunteers to stay and clean up afterwards.

If you are able to provide food, please let Pastor Ellen know by this Sunday. You can email her at revellenj@aol.com, leave a message on the voicemail at the church (333-5253), or tell her in person on Sunday morning!



Bed in Summer

By Robert Louis Stevenson

In winter I get up at night
 And dress by yellow candle-light.
 In summer, quite the other way,
 I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
 The birds still hopping on the tree,
 Or hear the grown-up people's feet
 Still going past me in the street.


And does it not seem hard to you,
 When all the sky is clear and blue,
 And I should like so much to play,
 To have to go to bed by day?



Connect!

Did you know that Immanuel has a Facebook page? If you're on Facebook and haven't "liked us" yet, please find our page and like it now! Stay connected, hear about upcoming events, send us photos to post from activities at Immanuel, and more!

More Just For Fun....

- 1) • That's
- 2) Budget

- 3) Sitting
 World



The Calendar....

June is the month for

Adopt a Cat
Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness
Black Music
GLBT Pride
National Safety
Perennial Gardening
National Camping

June 1: Go Barefoot
June 2-5: Brass Band Week
June 10: Alcoholic Anonymous Day
June 11-19: Kinit & Crochet Week
June 12: Disability Inclusion Sunday
June 14: Flag Day
June 18-25: 222nd General Assembly in Portland
June 19: Presbyterian Men's Sunday & Fathers' Day & Mission Committee meets after worship
June 20: Summer Solstice & **Men's Night Out, 6:30 pm at Bella Vista in Peter's Creek**
June 26: Active Live Sunday

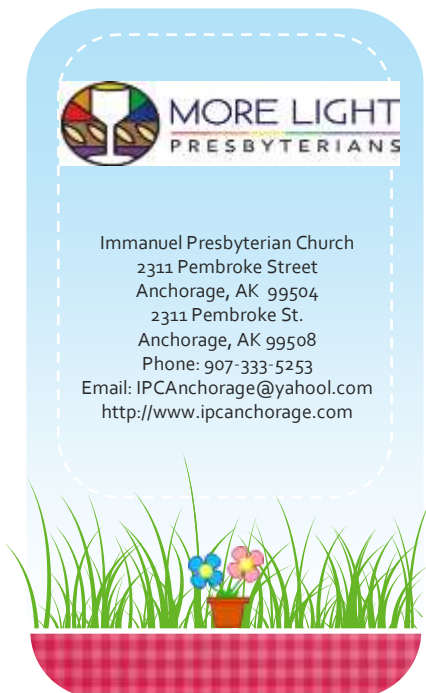
July is the month for....

Disaster Awareness
Blueberries
Grilling
Hot Dogs
Ice Cream
National Parks & Recreation
Social Wellness

July 1: 2nd half of the year
July 3: Immigration Sunday & International Plastic Bag Free Day
July 4: Independence Day
July 13: French Fries Day
July 17: Metropolitan/Urban Ministry Sunday
July 17-23: Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Perdue University in Indiana
July 18: Hug Your Kid Day
July 20: Cake Day
July 25: Video Games Day
July 30: Friendship Day & World Day Against Human Trafficking

More Just for Fun & Laughs....

- ◆ Wednesday, the Ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs. Johnson will sing "Put Me In My Little Bed," accompanied by the pastor.
- ◆ On Sunday, a special collection will be taken to defray the expense of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet, come forward and get a piece of paper.



All in June by William Henry Davies

A week ago I had a fire
To warm my feet, my hands and face;
Cold winds, that never make a friend,
Crept in and out of every place.

Today the fields are rich in grass,
And buttercups in thousands grow;
I'll show the world where I have been--
With gold-dust seen on either shoe.

Till to my garden back I come,
Where bumble-bees for hours and hours
Sit on their soft, fat, velvet bums,
To wriggle out of hollow flowers.



Just For Fun (answers)

- 1) That's beside the point
- 2) Balanced budget
- 3) Sitting on top of the world