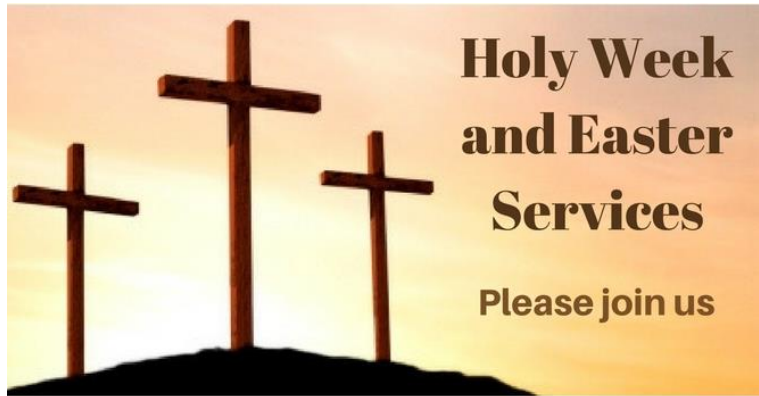


The Voice

March 2024

10 Woodland Street Hartford, CT 06105



Palm Sunday Worship: March 24th, 10am

Remain after this joyous and triumphal service for a wonderful and enjoyable intergenerational activity!

Maundy Thursday Worship: March 28th, 7pm

Join us for the Service of Tenebrae, led by church clergy and deacons. Many in our congregation find this service to be among the most touching and deeply moving events of our church calendar.

Good Friday Worship AT FAITH CHURCH: March 29th, 12 Noon

We join our colleagues and friends at Faith Church, 2030 Main Street, Hartford, to honor this most important Holy Week event.

Easter Sunday Worship, March 31st, 10am

Come celebrate the resurrection of Jesus – the triumph of life over death, love over hatred, hope over despair. Join us for this glorious time of worship and celebration.

CONCERT FOR THE EARTH



IN
TRINE

with Special Guest,
Lee Callahan

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 | 4:00PM

Tickets: \$25 Adv | \$30 Door

<http://www.bit.ly/ConcertForTheEarth>

**Parking is available at the Town & Country Club, and across
Woodland Street at the Hartford Medical Building**

American Folk Music In Alignment & Harmony

IMMANUEL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

10 Woodland St., Hartford, CT
ICCUCC.org
kate-callahan.com/in-trine

“Concert for the Earth” by In Trine, with Special Guest Lee Callahan Brought to You by Immanuel’s Environmental Action Committee

Invite your family and friends to Immanuel at 4pm on April 27th. In Trine is original folk music in alignment and harmony and was formed by Kate Callahan, Cynthia Wolcott, and Michelle Begley. Kate served as the 16th CT State Troubadour and is one of the most awarded singer/songwriters in Connecticut. Cynthia enjoys doing many different things in her life; one of her absolute favorites is singing with these two women. Michelle sings regularly with a variety of small and large choral groups and is blissed out when singing with her kids and friends. In Trine’s latest CD **Lay it Down** includes songs that urge us all to preserve and protect our Sacred Earth. Song titles include *World War Zero*, *Spin Again*, and *Waiting to See*, with lyrics that include “The earth will open up and spin again.”

The “Concert for the Earth” will first, celebrate Earth Week and our Sacred Earth, and second, raise funds for the Immanuel Church Green Fund to further green Immanuel and lower its carbon footprint.

Advance tickets may be purchased via Eventbrite at \$25/ticket and \$30/ticket at the door the afternoon of the concert. Ticket Link: <https://bit.ly/ConcertForTheEarth>

Church and community members who feel moved to support the concert production and the mission of the Green Fund are invited to become “Earth Steward Donors,” by contributing at the Bronze Level - \$100, at the Silver Level - \$300, or at the Gold Level - \$500. “Earth Steward Donors” will be given VIP seating at the concert. For info, contact Roland Axelson: rgaxelson@gmail.com or 860-817-2915

This very special concert is being widely promoted throughout the state of CT and beyond, especially reaching out to the numerous Environmental Organizations and non-profits, and multiple faith communities, all concerned for the environment and advocating for action to address the Climate Crisis. Rev. Dr. Jay Terbush will give the official welcome, on behalf of Immanuel Church.



1	Cliff Oliver	15	Maya Salvio
	Keith Powell	17	Elaine Popielarski
3	Liana Balakrishnan		Scott Reeves
	Grace Donahue	18	Liora Balakrishnan
6	Don Gillette	23	Christopher Liddell
11	Luke Dunlap	28	Jean Hafner
	Ruth Dunlap		Jay Liddell
	Lu St.Germain		
12	Jan Zito		

SAVE THE DATE!

To celebrate Immanuel's 200th Anniversary this year, we have invited renowned civil rights leader, Bishop William Barber II, to speak on Sunday, May 5th at 3pm. Bishop Barber is a preacher, social activist, author and sought-after public speaker who became nationally known for his leadership with the Moral Monday movement in North Carolina. He has recently begun a new phase of his work as the founding director of the Center for Public Theology & Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

This is an exciting opportunity for Immanuel, and we hope our sanctuary is filled to capacity to hear Bishop Barber's powerful message of "Challenge and Hope." There will be many ways for all of us to get involved in spreading the work before hand and welcoming visitors that afternoon.

But for now, please save the date!

An Afternoon of *CHALLENGE* and *HOPE*

with

Renowned Civil Rights Leader The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II



Sunday, May 5th, 3 pm



10 Woodland Street, Hartford (corner of Woodland St. and Farmington Ave.)

A freewill offering will be collected.

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II is President and Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach; Co-Chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival; and most recently, a Professor in the Practice of Public Theology and Public Policy and Founding Director of the Center for Public Theology and Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

Parking available next door at the Town & County Club and across Woodland Street at the Hartford Medical Building.

Church Council Meetings take place the third Monday of each month; Minutes are available here.

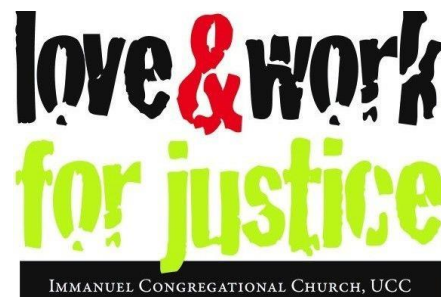
Minutes and reports from Council meetings are available electronically in *The Voice* each month. You may also request a hard copy from the Council Clerk, John Scully. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please email John prior to that meeting at idscully@comcast.net. He will provide you with an agenda and a Zoom link or meeting location.

Click [here](#) for the February Council Meeting minutes.



Transition Conversations, following 10am Services, in the Parlor

Dr. Jay leads this series of transition conversations as we discern the future of our beloved Immanuel. All are invited and encouraged to attend! Conversations to-date have been described as interesting, informative and even cathartic! We hope you will remain after worship on **Sundays, March 3rd and March 10th**.



Social Justice – What We Believe!

Our congregational survey results show:

93% of us said Immanuel should support social services for people in need

93% of us said Immanuel should call attention to social issues from the pulpit and study groups

82% of us said Immanuel should organize social issue action groups (like the Environmental Action Committee)

81% of us said Immanuel should lobby officials on peace and justice issues (like GHIAA and EAC)

63% of us said that our social justice work is what “keeps us at Immanuel,” second only to the music program.

Social Justice is clearly part of Immanuel’s DNA. The Social Action and Mission Committee (SAMC) is grateful for the tremendous support for social justice work over many, many years. We continue to strive to be more effective in our work and expand opportunities to engage with our neighbors. We’ll be introducing Minutes for Mission in worship, planning for Rev. William Barber’s visit in May, and exploring many other opportunities, such as working with Trinity Academy. And watch for other opportunities from the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA) and our Environmental Action Committee (EAC). Stay tuned! Join us!



New Grant Writing Team!

Many of you suggested in our brainstorming sessions last year that Immanuel begin to look for grant opportunities to help with everything from making our building “greener” to support existing and new mission projects. A brand new team of people has just been assembled to help with researching and writing grants. If you have talents in this area OR if you have ideas of grants we should be applying for, please contact Anne Stanback at annestanback@gmail.com.



Y’all Drop In Choir: Join Us!

ALL are invited on Sunday, March 10th, to sing with our Immanuel choir. Arrive at church for rehearsal at 9am on this Sunday to be part of the action, fun and beauty of honoring God in song. No musical experience necessary; just open hearts! Hope to see you!



Second Hour Presentation Sunday, March 17th, following Worship: Dances with the Divine Art Exhibit

Artist Candace Low will discuss her use of photography as a contemplative practice that has been a part of her journey of learning to live with a variety of mental health diagnosis, disabilities and

finding a path to wholeness of the spirit through receiving and sacred seeing. She explains her exhibit of photos and reflections hanging in Immanuel’s Fellowship Hall as an exploration of personal steps in her dance with the Divine. Candace invites each of us to reflect deep within ourselves and ask, “What kind of dance am I doing now?” All are invited to attend. Please note that Candace’s beautiful photographs as available for purchase by reaching out to her.

Collection of Items for the Hands On Hartford Food Pantry

Immanuel has been collecting non-perishable foods for the Hands on Hartford Food Pantry weekly since the beginning of October. Your amazing response has been heartwarming and so appreciated by the food insecure. There is a definite need for your assistance. Hands On Hartford never turns anyone away, so our help is needed now more than ever.



Buy a little extra each time you go to the grocery store - a box of cereal for your own family, and a box of cereal for Hands On Hartford. These are the items most needed by the Pantry:



- Boxed Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Pasta
- Rice
- Pancake Mix
- Canned Fruit

The deacons are asking you to bring non-perishable food items to our Sunday services (the grocery collection cart will be out each week). You don’t have to necessarily limit yourself to those items on the list. Don’t forget our gluten-free friends.



In this time of climate change, the Environmental Action Committee wants to highlight ways for each of us to connect with the natural world, to reduce stress and enhance love and prayerful concern for our environment.

An astonishing statistic was recently referred to by **Sarah Warner, author of Rooted Faith, our Lenten Study book: young people can recognize, on sight, over 200 brand name logos but fewer than a dozen plants.** Time is spent on our devices, which can be particularly harmful for children, and we are losing connection to the natural world. It is important for us to get to know our bioregion, which includes the plants, trees, animals, birds, and insects that live around us, and the landscape in which they thrive. Understanding, enjoying, and appreciating the world around us, our bioregion, can enhance our concern for doing everything we can to preserve it.

Take a walk in the park or local woods, listen for the birds, look for animals such as deer, rabbits or even bears and observe the local plants and trees. There are useful free apps such as **PI@ntNet** that gives basic facts about the plants you see and **iNaturalist** that allows identification of plants, animals, birds, and insects.

Alistair Humphreys, a world traveler, has narrowed his focus to **microadventures**, which are short, simple,

local, cheap – yet still fun, exciting, challenging, refreshing and rewarding, bringing you into touch with nature. They can include taking a moonlight walk around your neighborhood, walking in a local park at dawn or sunset, hiking in a nearby forest or camping overnight in a state park.

Forest bathing (Shinrun-roku) is an activity that originated with the Japanese in the 1980's, as a way to reduce tech-boom burnout and to inspire individuals to reconnect with and protect the country's forests. Researchers in the 1990s provided scientific evidence of the physiological and psychological benefits of forest bathing. Forest bathing is not just for the wilderness lover. The practice can be as simple as walking in any natural environment, consciously connecting with what is around you and it can be a meditative experience.

Earthing (also known as grounding) is another activity that can bring physiological and psychological benefits. This refers to contact with the Earth's surface electrons by walking barefoot outdoors or even sitting, working or sleeping indoors connected to conductive systems (some of them patented) that transfer energy from the ground into the body. Emerging scientific research supports the concept that the Earth's surface electrons induce multiple physiological changes of clinical significance, including better sleep, reduced pain, lower blood pressure, more stable cortisol levels and decreased cardiovascular disease.

The goal of each of these approaches is to help us, as individuals, reconnect in a meaningful way with the natural world, to appreciate the power and beauty of God's creation of which we humans are but one part.

Your Immanuel Environmental Action Committee

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7pm Voce Rehearsal	2 7pm Voce Rehearsal
3 8:30am Bible Study 9am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am ICC Worship, including Church School 10am Riverfront Worship 11:15am Second Hour Transition Conversation 1:15pm Voce Rehearsal 5:30pm Youth Group	4 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Diaconate Meeting	5 11:30am Staff Meeting 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal	6 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Environmental Action Committee Lenten Book Study	7 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8 7pm Voce Rehearsal	9 6pm Voce Call Time 7:30pm Voce Concert
10 8:30am Bible Study 9am Y'All Drop In Choir Rehearsal 10am ICC Worship, including Church School 11:15am Second Hour Transition Conversation	11 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Board of Finance Meeting	12 9am Zoom South Marshall Street Interfaith Coalition Meeting 11:30am Staff Meeting 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Visio Divina Lenten Study 7pm Zoom Board of Christian Education Meeting	13 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Environmental Action Committee Lenten Book Study	14 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 5pm Zoom Social Action & Mission Committee Meeting 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 8:30am Bible Study 9am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship, including Church School 11:15am Second Hour Presentation: Dances w/the Divine Art Exhibit 5:30pm Youth Group	18 10am Music Director Search Committee Meeting 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Council Meeting	19 11:30am Staff Meeting 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal	20 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 6:30pm PFLAG Meeting 7pm Zoom Environmental Action Committee Lenten Book Study	21 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 8:30am Bible Study 9am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Palm Sunday Worship, including Church School 11:15am Second Hour Board of Christian Education Intergenerational Activity	25 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom ICC Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance Core Team Meeting	26 11:30am Staff Meeting 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal	27 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Zoom Property Committee Meeting	28 11am ICC Serves at Loaves & Fishes 4pm Hartford's Proud Drum Corp Rehearsal 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship	29 12 Noon Good Friday Service at Faith Church	30
31 8:30am Bible Study 9am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Easter Sunday Worship						



FARMINGTON AVE AT WOODLAND ST | HARTFORD CT | 06105