

WINTER 2026

# The Grand Life

THE NEWSLETTER OF IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH'S SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

**RSVP TODAY!**

**703-813-1955**

**horn@ibc.church**

*Welcome!*

Here is a look at what we have coming up. *All luncheons will take place in the Atrium of IBC.*

While luncheons are provided at no cost to you, we do keep a donation basket if you feel led to contribute. To RSVP, please call the number listed above or email Jennis at [horn@ibc.church](mailto:horn@ibc.church).

Hope to see you soon!

## January 16th Luncheon - Bootz & Dan featuring the Dipsy Chips

2026 will start out with a joyful noise! Pastor Alex Hairgrove and Pastor Dan Crabtree will reprise their country music duo, Bootz & Dan. This special performance will also feature Jennis Horn, Erin Barricklow, and Alaura Kratzer as the Dipsy Chips! Join us and bring a friend for some great music and fellowship.

*Please RSVP by Monday, January 12th. We will meet in the Atrium at 11 AM.*

## February 6th Luncheon - Getting to Know You

Join us for a series of activities and games to encourage open conversations and strengthen friendships! Learn something new about an old friend, or something old about a new friend! Be prepared to get up and move around to mingle and ask great questions. Bring a friend!

*Please RSVP by Monday, February 2nd. We will meet in the Atrium at 11 AM.*

## March 20th - Grief and the Believer

Special guest speaker Dr. Marty Schuh will be joining Grand Life to talk with us about grief in the context of the Bible. As a retired clinical psychologist and one of our elders, Dr. Schuh has offered counsel to many congregants of Immanuel. He is gifted in addressing one of the hardest aspects of our lives. Join us for encouragement, helpful conversations, and an insightful morning.

*Please RSVP by Monday, March 16th. We will meet in the Atrium at 11 AM.*

Immanuel Christian Bookstore hours

Tues 11 AM - 4 PM

Wed 11 AM - 7 PM

Thurs 11 AM - 4 PM

Sun 9 AM - 1 PM.

Phone: 703-354-5219.

## September 26th Luncheon by Gary Holmberg

On Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, we had a big group for one of our favorites—The Burke Acoustic Music Society, aka The Pastors' Band, and Staff Infection. The group had a wonderful and varied program of bluegrass music, as usual. The members of the group were: Bob Hartman, mandolin and vocals; David Leach, guitar and vocals; Bob Snyder, guitar and vocals; Alex Hairgrove, guitar and vocals; Steve Holley, dobro and vocals; Tom Joyce, percussion on the cahon and harmonica; Jerry Kelleher, bass; and our own Jennis Horn on vocals.

David Leach and the band led off with a Fernando Ortego song entitled This Good Day. Then Jennis joined the band to sing a love song, More Like a River. Alex led next with a real down-home song entitled A Simple Life.

The guys did three songs about our lives (and deaths) as followers of Jesus. Bob Snyder sang Ain't No Grave (can hold my body down). Steve sang a song introduced by the Luben Brothers entitled simply I Like the Christian Life. At this point, Bob Hartman chose to share his testimony. Back in 1976, nearly 30 years ago, he was in a rock band when someone shared The Four Spiritual Laws with him. He immediately accepted Christ as his Savior, and his life took a different trajectory. Bob finished this segment with We Will Feast in the House of Zion, looking forward to arriving in Heaven.

The band then played three more songs. Bob Snyder led with Wagon Wheel, then Bob and David Leach led in a great train song, The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down. Jennis joined the band for her second song, These Days, a song written by 17-year-old Jackson Brown and on the theme of living life one day at a time.

Following Jennis' song, the entire ICS kindergarten joined us to sing a wonderful song about the days of creation. It is so great to see that Immanuel Christian School teaches biblical turth as early as kindergarten. After the kids sang, they spread throughout the room to greet us.

The guys finished with four more songs. Bob Hartman led with a humorous song, Bacon in My Beans. A husband reminds his wife of all the things he has done for her and pleads for her to include bacon in his beans. Alex then led with an old favorite, Hey, Good Lookin'. Steve led with the thought-provoking One Drop of Water, focusing on the rich and selfish man suffering in the flames of hell and pleading for a drop of water to cool his tongue. The message is that there is only one way to Heaven, where we will never thirst. David led with his own composition, Take a Look Around, with the repeated message, "Good to be living in God's world."

By now we were hungry, and Hannah's kitchen had a delicious lunch for us: shredded barbeque on buns, wonderful baked beans, potato salad, and brownies for dessert.



## September 26th Luncheon by Gary Holmberg





## October 17th Luncheon - Attitude of Gratitude with Pastor Steve Holley by Gary Holmberg

On Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, we had our monthly Grand Life luncheon with a focus on gratitude. Steve Holley, Immanuel's Pastor for Seniors, led off with a devotional on gratitude. He led us through 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 in which Paul exhorts us to be thankful in all circumstances.

He then listed several observations on being thankful:

- Spurgeon: "When we thank God for miseries, they end."
- "God, I trust you in the worst of times."
- We need to take our focus off of this world and focus on the next.
- We can always give thanks because we know Him.
- When our hearts are full, we change.
- Lincoln proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving in the midst of the Civil War.
- We need to demonstrate gratitude: notes, service, donations.
- In Rev. 7:12 we see gratitude in Heaven. It results in worship of God forever and forever.
- Giving thanks is a command, not an option.
- AW Tozer: "A thankful heart can't be cynical. It's too busy counting blessings."

After Steve's excellent devotional, a group of ICS kindergartners joined us. They sang Psalm 100 and distributed flowers to us. Jennis gave us paper to write down a list of things for which we are grateful. Then we shared around our tables. It was a great reminder to count our blessings frequently, not just once a year.

Then a final blessing for which to be thankful: Hannah's kitchen had a delicious lunch for us—some wonderful bread, a pesto chicken pasta dish, delicious green salad with lots of bleu cheese, and cake with butterscotch frosting for dessert.



## November 21<sup>st</sup> Luncheon - Fraud and Scam Prevention

Officer Bayron Gudiel Reneau visited with Grand Life today to talk about scam and fraud prevention. As a Crime Prevention Officer, he serves in many capacities for Fairfax County Police. Occasionally, you can also spot him on duty at Immanuel Christian School as one of the dedicated safety patrols for the school children.

Officer Gudiel provided a wealth of information related to identify scams, detecting fraud, and steps to take to prevent it from happening to you or someone you know. He informed us that about \$12.5 billion is lost to financial fraud in 2024 alone in the U.S.

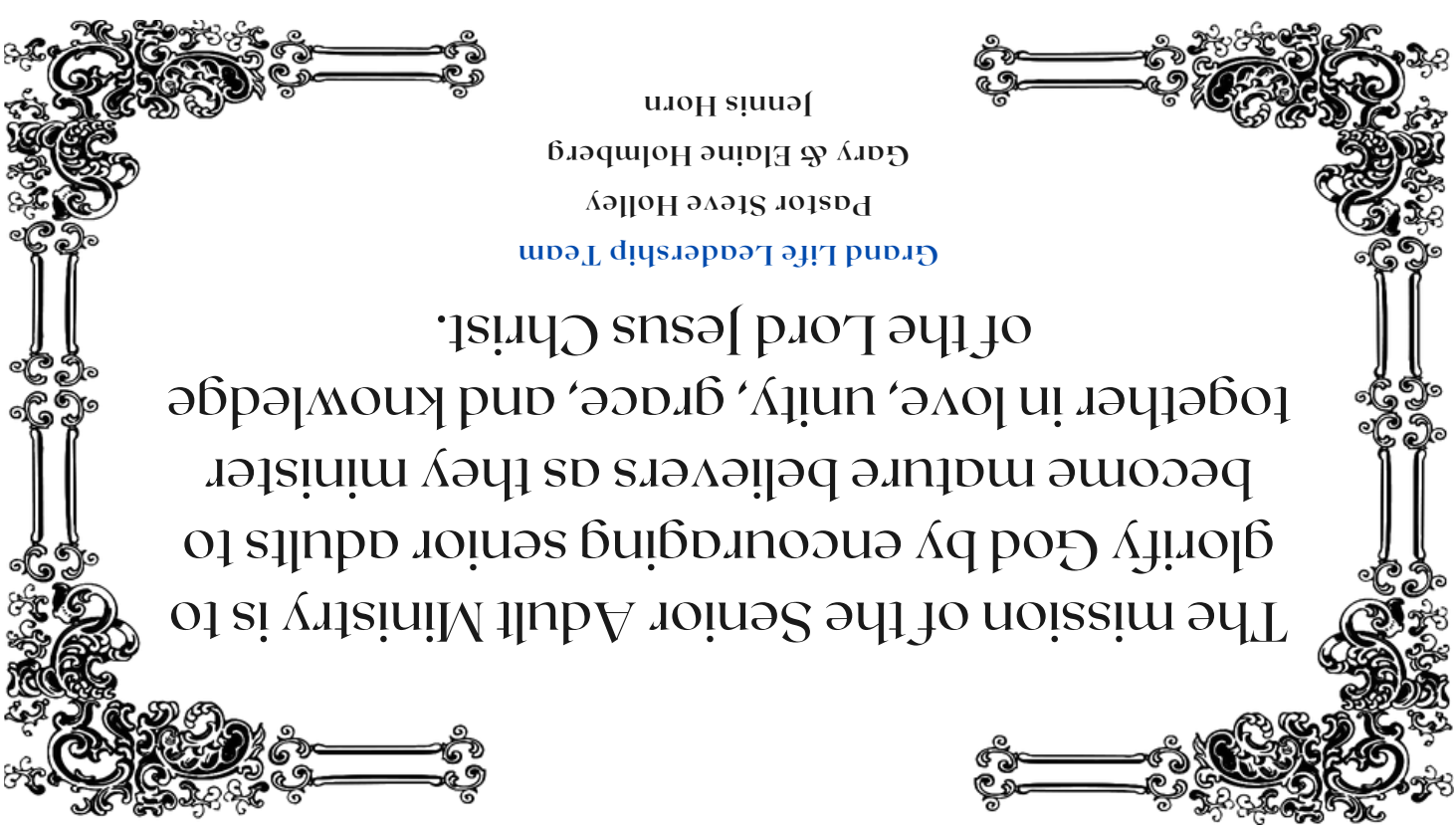
Some warning signs he provided included request for payment via gift card or money transfers, or cashier's checks. Any entity calling, texting, or emailing you completely unprompted should be treated with suspicion. Legitimate banks, companies, and organizations always mail a letter and will not contact you via phone. There's also a pressure to answer, respond or pay immediately to avoid stronger penalties.

Especially with the holidays, we encourage you to be wary of voice phishing scams where someone calls you posing as a child, grandchild, or other family member that is in desperate need of cash to get out of jail, get on a bus from out of town, etc.

Officer Gudiel encouraged everyone to always stay calm and verify everything before you take any financial steps. One thing you can do is run a Google search of the phone number contacting you. Always screen your phone calls (you don't have to answer!) and let them leave a voicemail. A scammer will not leave voicemail, but an automated machine may. Either way, you'll know you didn't miss anything important! Another good trick is to answer the phone by not saying "hello", which confuses automated scam bots. If you get a call about a family member in distress, verify directly with that family member first by calling them directly. If you cannot get a hold of them, contact someone else that would know where that person should be.

With all technology, be wise about how much information you give to someone you have not met face-to-face. Visit the bank during the day and avoid telling the teller out loud the amount you'd like deposited/cashed out. Write it on paper instead.

If you suspect a scam or financial fraud, please call 703-691-2131.



The mission of the Senior Adult Ministry is to  
glorify God by encouraging senior adults to  
become mature believers as they minister  
together in love, unity, grace, and knowledge  
of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grand Life Leadership Team

Pastor Steve Holley

Gary & Elaine Holmberg

Jennis Horn

## THE GRAND LIFE

**Immanuel Bible Church**

**6911 Braddock Road**

**Springfield, VA 22151**