

STAFF

Pastor - Rev. Phil Mathews - RevPhil@ImaniMCC.org
Congregational Care Coordinator - Rev. Annie R. Ross -
RevAnnie@ImaniMCC.org
Church Administrator - Jim Manchester - ChurchAdmin@ImaniMCC.org
(Office Hours: TBA, please call for appointment)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Moderator - Rev. Phil Mathews - RevPhil@ImaniMCC.org
Vice-Moderator - Julie Weathers - JulieW@ImaniMCC.org
Clerk - BJ Tatum - BJ@ImaniMCC.org
Treasurer - Jules Taylor - JulesT@ImaniMCC.org
Mike Johnson - MikeJ@ImaniMCC.org

LAY DELEGATE

Wendy Gellert - WendyG@ImaniMCC.org

CHURCH INFORMATION

Imani Ministry Center: 3602 C-View Street, Durham NC 27713
Mailing Address: PO Box 13172 • Durham NC 27709-3172
Church Phone Number: (919) 251-6275
Webpage: www.ImaniMCC.org

WEEKLY EVENTS

- Sunday: 11:45-1:00 pm - Bible Study (begins April 15th)
- Tuesday: 7:00pm-8:30pm - Choir rehearsal
- Wednesday: 7:00pm-8:30pm - Bible Study
- Thursday: 7:30pm-9:00pm - Bible Study - Hillsborough - 610 Red Fox Trail (Call Annette or Melissa - 643-2284)
- Thursday: 7:00pm-8:30pm - Healing Circle (begins April 12th)
- Saturday: 10am-11:00am - Prayer Service

Please check your email for the latest
Focusing Our Faith
or ask for a copy from one of the Ushers.



3602 C-View Street • Durham NC

worship, word, oneness, wonder and witness.

"Imani (Faith) ... is the substance
of things hoped for, the evidence
of things not seen." - Hebrews 11:1



Imani MCC

Passion /Palm Sunday • Sixth Sunday in Lent
April 1, 2012
10:00 am
Imani MCC Worship Center

WE WELCOME YOU TO IMANI MCC.
YOU MAY BE NEW TO US, BUT
YOU ARE KNOWN AND LOVED BY GOD.

Imani, a church where, through faith, all can experience and express God's irresistible love through

The Stations of the Cross
Passion Sunday 2012 – April 1, 2012

The Lord's Supper and The Sharing of Our Gifts

Mark 14:17-26

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Words of Welcome & Call to Worship:

Isaiah 53:1-3

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We gather here to worship God.

People: We gather to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us and to thank God for his love and his mercy.

Leader: Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

People: He grew up before God like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

Leader: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

People: Like one from whom women and men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Prayer

Leader: O Lord, we are gathered together here this day as your people, as those who have been called out of darkness into your marvelous light.

We are here only because you have loved us and been faithful across the generations that we might be your people. And yet we quickly confess that [all too often] we are not [aware] of that love ...
And help us to hear, not just the words that are spoken, but your Word spoken afresh in our hearts.

People: Speak, for your servants are listening.

[A short time of silent prayer and meditation]

Leader: Let us begin our journey.

Hymn

“Were You There” (verses 1 and 2)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?



The Stations of the Cross

Station 1: Pilate Condemns Jesus to Die



Reflection

Rev. Annie Ross

People: Jesus, I see in your silence the quiet strength that reveals a peace and a resolve. O Lord, help me deal with the unfairness of life without becoming critical of others. Help me to be sensitive to the pain and feelings of others. Give me the courage to do what is right without being swayed by the demands of others. Amen.

Congregational Song

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, Let me stand.
I'm tired, I am weak I am worn, Through the storm, through the night.
Lead me on to the light, Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

A moment of silent meditation follows each of the stations before proceeding to the next one.

Station 2: Jesus Accepts His Cross



Reflection

Ms. Rosalee

People: O Lord, forgive me for forgetting that in my weakness I am driven to trust in you, and that in such trust my weakness becomes your strength. Forgive my attitudes of self-pity that make me more repulsive than loving. I do not ask for crosses to bear. But when they come, give me the strength to bear them as one who follows your example. Amen.

Congregational Song

“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”

Jesus, keep me near the cross, There a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross, Be my glory ever;
'Til my raptured soul shall find Rest beyond the river.

Station 3: Simon Helps Carry the Cross



Reflection

Mr. Michael

People: O Lord, forgive me for becoming so preoccupied with myself that I have become deaf and blind to the grief and suffering of those around me. Forgive me for my indifference. Constantly remind me that I cannot love you without loving others as well. Help me always remember that to be a follower of yours means that I share in the burdens of others. Lord, show me someone whose cross I may help carry. Amen.

Song:

“I Need You to Survive”

Ms. Rosalee

Station 4: Jesus Speaks to the Women



Reflection

Ms. Tunisia

People: O Lord, forgive my unwillingness to repent, to confess all that I am before you. Help me go beyond the repentance mouthed in

words of false piety, to sweep away all the facades of who I try so hard to be before others, and recall who I really am inside. Help me once again stand before God with a bare and open heart. Help me not just to repent in words, but to put that repentance into action in everything I am and do. O Lord, give me the gift of tears to weep for my own failures, for my sins, for the pain I bring to others, and to live the fruits of repentance. Amen.

Congregational Song

“Walk with Me”

Walk with me Lord; walk with me
Walk with me Lord; walk with me
Ooh, while I’m on this tedious journey
I want Jesus to walk with me.

Oh, hold my hand Lord; please hold my hand
Oh, hold my hand Lord; hold, hold my hand
While I’m on this tedious journey
I want Jesus to walk with me.

Station 5: Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments



Reflection

Mr. Patrick

People: O Lord, forgive me for wanting to take the path of glory and reward. Forgive me for my selfishness that wants to serve you in easy ways and seeks the reward of others’ praise. Lord, teach me the humility of spirit that replaces self-centeredness with a sacrificial spirit. Make me vulnerable so that I may follow your example. Help me see those around me who are in need. Give me the courage to lay aside the things that I use to hide from their need, and find ways to minister to others as you have shown us.

Congregational Song:

“Lead Me Lord”

Lead me Lord, I will follow
Lead me Lord, I will go
You have called me, I will answer
Lead me Lord. I will go.
Lead me Lord. I will go.
Lead me Lord. I will go.

Station 6: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross



Reflection:

Ms. Valerie

People: O Lord, remind me of the deathly cost of sin. Forgive me for those things I have done that are displeasing to you. Forgive me for not allowing you to deal with the darkness that I harbor in the hidden recesses of my heart. Forgive me for fooling myself into believing that I am more righteous than I am, that I am better than others, and that I have no need to repent. Forgive me for those things I should have done, but found excuses not to do. O Lord, make me better than I am, transform me into what I can be by your grace. Amen.

Solo:

Mr. Greg

“Feel the Nails”

Station 7: Jesus Cares for His Mother



Reflection:

Mr. Anthony

People: O Lord, make me whole so that I may love with the compassion with which you love. Give me the courage to stand beside those who are hurting and share their pain. You know everything about me, my weakness, my faults, and my sin. Redeem me and make me new. Through your strength and by your grace, make me a conduit of your love, not just to the lovable, but to any who need to be cared for and loved. Amen.

Special Music (Audio):

“Mary Did You Know”

Station 8: Jesus Dies on the Cross



Reflection:

Ms. Toka

People: O Lord, I cannot comprehend the depth and breadth of your love. There are not enough words in all languages together to describe what your love means to me. May my love for you and my love for all your children in some way reflect your love. Let this dark night become fertile soil for growth in your love and for our growth as a community of Faith. May you use this night to teach us how to love you and to love others the way you have loved us. O Lord, we long for newness, for hope, for renewal, for life where there is now death. Out of this darkness bring to us the light of a new dawn. O Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.

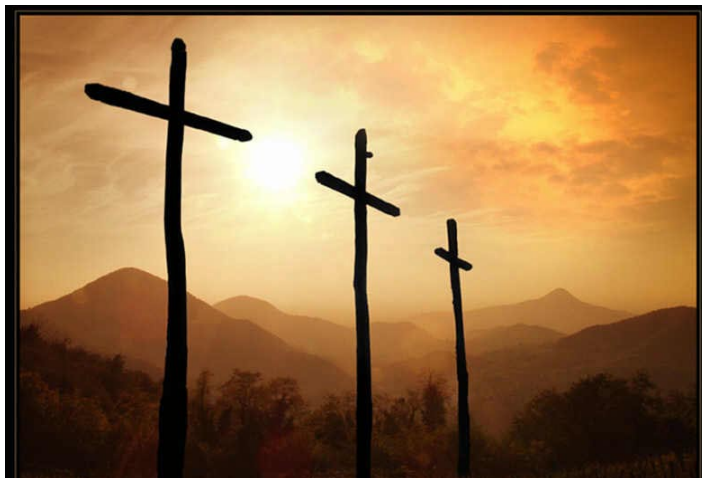
Congregational Song:

“Were You There?”

We were there when the sun refused to shine?
 We were there when the sun refused to shine?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 We were there when the sun refused to shine?

We were there when they pierced him in the side?
 We were there when they pierced him in the side?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 We were there when they pierced him in the side?

We were there when they laid in the tomb?
 We were there when they laid in the tomb?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 We were there when they laid Him in the tomb?



Leader: We hope for the dawning of a new day. We hope for God to bring newness out of endings. But today ... go home. There is nothing more to see. Jesus is dead.

Benediction

Depart now in peace – and may the Spirit of Christ, go with you, may his faith and trust abide within you, and may the knowledge of his love support you both now and forevermore. Amen.

The banners are courtesy of Maj. Robin Stephenson-Bratcher, Chaplain, USAF
 The Meditations and Prayers for Stations 1-5 are by Dennis Bratcher.
 Marilyn Knott contributed to the Meditations and Prayers for Stations 6-8.
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April Birthdays
 April 3 – Amanda

Let’s remember to “keep first things first” this week!

*“Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ But seek first [God’s] kingdom and [God’s] righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”
 Matthew 6:31, 33 (NASB)*

| | Needed | Actual | Var. +/- |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| March 25, 2012 Offering: | \$1,868.80 | \$1,594.00 | (\$ -274.80) |
| Year to date: | \$24,294.40 | \$19,039.72 | (\$ -5,254.68) |
| | Offering | Yr to Date | Total Given |
| Building Fund Giving | \$17.00 | \$1,172.00 | \$162,792.93 |
| Expenditures | \$143,797.67 | Balance | \$15,746.57 |
| Attendance: 30 | | Updated Weekly | |

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” - Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)