



MESSENGER



From The Rector

There is great energy at Emmanuel! I have been in a number of meetings and conversations about your hopes and plans for the parish. We have discussed ways to integrate programs and activities into the life of the congregation. The scriptures speak of

the Church as a body with its various serving their various purposes. The eyes see, the ears hear, hand touch, legs move us forward, etc. Certainly we have various gifts for ministry. Not all can teach or sing or do work on the building and grounds but all can do something. All are called to do something.

The heart of the body of Christ is the sacramental moment when eternity and the present don't seem so different. Some sacramental moments are obvious. A priest says, "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God," and the people respond, "It is right to give God thanks and praise." That is the congregation in effect giving the priest permission to continue by their agreement that remembering and praising God are the proper responses of the people to the word they have heard read and proclaimed. We remember God's mighty acts and ask the Holy Spirit to accept our gifts of bread and wine. In the sacramental moment that follows we are made one with each other and one with Christ. We remember our baptisms and the baptismal covenant. The sacraments of baptism and Eucharist are the means

through which we enter into covenant with God and through which that covenant is nourished.

There are other sacrament moments such as when a bride and groom exchange vows and turn to God recognizing their dependence on grace to establish their home in peace. Other obvious sacramental moments are when a Christian is confirmed or received, when the sick are anointed, when a new deacon, priest or bishop is ordained. Less obvious, perhaps, are the sacrament moments we have in the midst of our busy lives.

There was a monk who name was Brother Lawrence. In a letter he wrote to a friend, he described how the bells to go to church interrupted his prayers as he was washing dishes. I was reminded of that once when I was in the chapel at Sewanee early one morning. I was alone and enjoying the early morning sunlight brilliantly illuminating the stained glass. I was praying the morning office when a cleaning woman entered the church and started cleaning. I was at first annoyed that she had interrupted my prayers.

Then it occurred to me that perhaps I had interrupted hers.

See you Sunday if not before.

Sunday, September 14

RALLY DAY

Gathering 10:15 am

Service 10:30 am

See page 4 for more info



September

Birthdays

2 Leno Rainero 3 Lynn Fuller
4 George Bunn, Mimi Sullivan
5 John Rainero 6 Veronica Taylor
7 Lucinda Schneider 8 Anna Rush
11 Jack Aaron 12 Maryjane Luffman
13 Diana Fuller 14 Brady Harmon
15 Frank Goodpasture III
16 Arnell Byers, Challen Walling,
Ashley McLaughlin, 19 Harriett Harty,
Elaine Coleman 21 Ruth King
22 Barbara Bunn 23 Valerie Zochowski
24 Sandra Rushing 27 Jenny Lawson
28 Clayton Borwn 30 Lou Phetteplace

Wedding Anniversaries

3 Jan and Bob Bruce,
4 Lynn and Jud Powers,
Becca and Ed Powers
8 Eddy and Austin Carr
9 Jackie and Eric Ecerett
11 Ann and Greg Oakley
12 Jo Anne and Tom Hairston
20 Mimi and Brian Sullivan
22 Hilary and Ron Hurst
28 Fran and Peter Combs,
Lisa and Doug Mitchell
30 Karen and Dean Tillison

Prayer Requests

Mike Blair, Barbara Bunn,
Winifred Campbell, Beth and Charles Dixon,
Kathy Frey, Ann Gillenwater,
Frank Goodpasture, Junior,
Deirdre Grogan, Sharon Hatcher,
Brennan Hodges, Ann Holler,
Emily Hubbard, Michael Johnston,
Thomas Jones, John T. Kelly,
Chris Mallin, Gayle Mallin,
Louise Medley, Jill Mendiljian,
Joyce Rodgers, Robert Rodgers,
Katy Sikorski, Sharon Slaughter,
Tracy Stark, Nikki Guest Thomas,
Lamont Tidwell, Carla Vaughn,
Emma, and the families in Family Promise.

Deacon's Word

The Rev. Preston Mitchell



The word for this month is thanksgiving. Two weeks ago Father Joe asked me if I would be Emmanuel's contact person for the diocesan representative

for the United Thank Offering (UTO). I immediately said yes because it has been one of my favorite ministries in our church and certainly one that fits the role of a deacon to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ outside the walls of the church.

The United Thank Offering was founded largely through the efforts of two women, Miss Julia Emery and Mrs. Richard Soule, the first offering was taken October 3, 1889, in the Church of the Holy Communion, New York City. The bulk of the money went to a building a church at Anvik, Alaska, and to send a missionary to Japan. \$5 was sent to Montana, and .25 went for an organ fund for an organ fund in Liberia. In the years since offering from UTO Blue Boxes has totaled over \$100 million. Funds have been given for mission projects all over the world. But the money does not go only international projects but also for projects within our

diocese. In Wise County alone two grants have gone out in the last fifteen years, one to Grace House and another to Hope House, the home for battered women in Norton.

This year is the 125th anniversary of the UTO and to commemorate this, the presiding bishop is awarding 10 grants of \$12,500 for work in the church. Bishop Mark Bourlakis recently approved a grant application toward remodeling the kitchen at Grace House.

The United Thank Offering, however, is more than just providing money to where it is needed. It is a practice, a discipline that makes the offering a truly thankful one. The purpose of the blue boxes, which can be picked up at the back of the church, is to place a coin in the box each day as a way of giving thanks for the blessings that we have in our life. It may be a prayerful thanks for our job, our family, our pet, our friends, etc. Growing up there was a blue box (called a mite box then) on the kitchen table. My mother kept her blue box by her bedside table and practiced her thankfulness until her death two years ago. In her honor Patty and I keep a box on a table in our bedroom where a picture of our parents stand. When I worked at UVa-Wise, I have kept a box in my office at work. It is a habit, a routine that reminds us of the most simple and profound prayer we can make and that is "thank you Lord for this day."

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept we pray these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. Amen.

St Elizabeth Guild

Saint Elizabeth Guild opening meeting for the new season is the usual 2nd Tuesday of the month which is **September 9 at 10:30 am**. All ladies are welcome and we congratulate Margaret Roberts as the new Chairperson.

Social Club continued to meet throughout the summer on the first Thursday of the month. We are grateful to Anna Rush for her leadership backed by the faithful group of helpers. There has been a significant increase of guests coming with evidence of enjoyment, friendship and fellowship which is proving to be one of their highlights of the month.

We continue to purchase \$50.00 of good quality ground beef every month for Bristol Food Pantry.

We are grateful to Father Joe and the Rev. Preston for their interest, encouragement and participation.

We thank Patricia (Roberts) Hornick, Greg Roberts and Jack Taylor for the musical interlude which everyone enjoyed.

It is with much sadness that we have just learned of the death of Edith Derting, she was a long time member of Saint Elizabeth Guild. Edith and her husband John moved to live in Maryland VA to be close to their family three years ago. We send our deepest sympathy to her family circle.

Audrey Moore
(outgoing Chairperson)

Rhythm and Roots Reunion

The 14th Annual Bristol Rhythm and Roots Reunion is **Friday, September 19–Sunday, September 21** and Emmanuel has the best parking spaces in town, but, they're going fast! Call the Parish Office for more information about parking for this event!

Soup Kitchen

October is Soup Kitchen Month for Emmanuel. We help package the meals that are distributed to residents of Bristol, VA. The meals are prepared and packaged at the old Sullins College (United Company) building on Glenway Avenue. The Soup Kitchen has had an increase in the number of lunches served; therefore they recommend there be three volunteers per day. Work lasts less than 90 minutes starting at 8:30 am weekdays. A sign-up sheet is available on the red information station in the Parish Hall, or you may call the Parish Office to sign up. For general information about this program, please speak with Melissa Taverner. Emmanuel's next Soup Kitchen month will be March 2015.

Rally Day Memories



RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 14

Gathering 10:15 am, Service 10:30 am

Fern Valley Farm, 19310 Rollins Dr.
Bristol, VA 24202

Bring a covered dish or dessert to share. BBQ & drinks will be provided.

Don't forget your favorite blanket or lawn chair.

Get ready for a day of fun with

- ◆ Games
- ◆ Hay rides
- ◆ A mini horse
- ◆ A mini donkey
- ◆ Goats
- ◆ Sheep
- ◆ Lambs
- ◆ Chickens
- ◆ Bunnies



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
700 Cumberland St
Bristol, VA 24201

1. Start out going northwest on Cumberland St (go 0.22 miles)
 2. Turn right onto Commonwealth Ave. Continue to follow Commonwealth Ave/VA-381 N. (go 0.95 miles)
 3. Turn left onto Keys St (the stoplight just as I-381 starts. (go 0.03 miles)
 4. Turn immediately onto Commonwealth Avenue Ext past the chip factory. (go 0.32 miles)
 5. Bear to the right past the trailer park and under the interstate - Elkton Ln / Pittstown Rd / Island Rd. (go 0.56 miles)
 6. Go up the hill (Bobby's Market is on the right) onto Benhams Rd. (go 3.16 miles)
 7. Turn left onto Burson Ln just before Goodson Kinderhook fire dept (go 0.22 miles)
 8. Turn left onto Reedy Creek Rd. (go 0.47 miles)
 9. Take the 1st right onto Rollins Dr (Portions unpaved). (go 0.33 miles)
 10. 19310 ROLLINS DR is on the right. Fern Valley Farm is at the end of Rollins Dr
- TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME: 14 minutes
DISTANCE: 6.28 miles

The Birds and the Bees

I know from experience that counting the number of parish members is difficult. The national church – The Episcopal Church (TEC) – mandates a regular census and each parish is required annually to answer a number of questions about budget, stewardship, attendance and leadership. This information forms the basis of the ‘Parochial Report’ and it’s an activity that has been conducted for decades. It’s possible, on-line, to research the membership and giving trends for every diocese and parish in the TEC – all 110 dioceses and more than 7,000 congregations. If you want to analyze Emmanuel’s parochial reports for the past decade - as I’m sure Father Joe did before he expressed interest in coming to Emmanuel – first you need to understand a few Episcopal Church definitions:



The Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) – Pretty straightforward: just count all who attended on a Sunday (both services) and divide by the number of Sundays.

Active Baptized Member - A person whose baptism is recorded in the Parish Register and contributes to or participates in the worship and communal life of the parish (regardless of how much or how little). If you move to another church, or aren’t active for a year – financially or spiritually – you’ll be moved from the ‘active’ status.

Communicant in Good Standing - All baptized members of the parish who have received communion at least 3 times in the past year. Not too difficult for most of us, considering Christmas and Easter get us 67% of the way there.

Then you need to understand that the gathering of membership information is more art than science; more ‘close enough’ than exact. It’s a bit like counting the number of bees in a swarm attached to a tree branch in the forest. You can count the core – the ones that are always there - but the ones on the edges are the challenge: bees flying off but not telling anyone when they’ll be back, doing the pollen thing, and then deciding to stay out late with the birds. You need a disciplined approach to managing the membership lists and reporting accurate numbers to the TEC. In reality, keeping up with these various tallies is tricky; even more so when the parish is without a full-time priest. The rector is really the only

person who gets to know all the members, their attendance habits, their health and mobility, their support of the parish – both monetarily and through prayer.

Over the past few months, since Father Joe arrived at Pentecost, and without knowing anything about ASA and CIGS, I think you’d agree that Sunday attendance has certainly ‘felt’ like it has been growing and the pews at the back of the church at 10:30 are fuller than they have been in a long time. (And in actuality the ASA is definitely up – I’ve seen the numbers.) Eventually, there will be a steady migration forward toward the chancel steps as the back rows become claustrophobic and restive and there’s consensus that things aren’t so bad after all in the pews north of mid-nave.

Of course, the challenge of any filling-up church is how to welcome new and returning members. There are many TEC resources and seminars on how to welcome visitors, how to encourage them to return the next week, and how not to scare them off. There’s a fine line, after all, between welcoming and stalking. Fortunately, being in the South, Emmanuel doesn’t need lots of lessons on welcoming strangers; but we will benefit from a coordinated approach to greeting (and recognizing) visitors, introducing them to the rector or a Vestry member, and following-up after the service to invite them back. Recognizing visitors is always an issue: do we invite new members to wear a nametag or a funny hat – or a seashell necklace, as my family experienced in Hawaii? Should members themselves wear the nametags to make our guests feel more welcome? On a larger scale, Father Joe has been experiencing his own Sunday morning guess-a-thon – new visitor or returning member? Perhaps less so now but certainly early on, we were all new visitors to him.

Whether you’re a bee who’s been attentive to the hive for a long time, one who’s been out partying with the birds, or a bird-friend from another nest: welcome to Emmanuel! We’re glad you’re here and hope you feel comfortable enough to extend a hand of welcome or introduction and want to become part of the good things that are happening in our parish.

David Taverner, Senior Warden

The **July 21, 2014** Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at approximately 5:22 pm with a prayer by The Rev. Joe K. Dunagan, D. Min.

Members present: Brad Adams, Tina Hitt, Fred Knickerbocker, Doug Mitchell, Julia Rainero, Denise Rowe, David Taverner, Zane Myers.

Members absent: Mike Blair, Frank Goodpasture III, Allen Rushing, Debbie Tidwell.

Guests: Bob Bruce.

Approval of April and May 2014 Minutes

Minutes of the April 16 and May 7, 2014 meetings were presented by the Rev. Dunagan.

Motion to accept both April and May 2014 minutes, as presented, by Denise Rowe. Second by Fred Knickerbocker. Approved unanimously.

Rector's Report

- The rector expressed appreciation for the kindness expressed to him and his family during the move and first weeks at Emmanuel. He reported his wife will go before the Standing Committee of the Diocese to be approved as a Candidate for Holy Orders. If approved as a candidate, the date will be set for her ordination to the priesthood. He requested prayers.
- The rector also said that he would like to be intentional about contacting parishioners and asked the vestry to bring to his attention individuals to his attention who need to be visited or contacted.

Financial Reports

Bob Bruce presented a detailed analysis of year-to-date financial reports.

Motion to accept the financial reports, as presented, by Dr. Knickerbocker. Second by Julia Rainero. Approved unanimously.

- Mr. Bruce explained the internal controls process for finances. After the Finance Committee reviewed the current procedures and feel that an Asst. Treasurer is needed to post contributions.
- The rector's discretionary fund is currently a reimbursement fund. The rector retains detailed information regarding expenditures to satisfy a potential audit. Otherwise the expenditures are confidential.
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- Mr. Bruce presented an investment policy and corporate resolution for Tri Summit bank detailing who would have access to the bank account(s) and the limitations of each individual named. The largest change to the internal procedures is eliminating the need for two signatures on accounts payable checks. Mr. Bruce requested the vestry approve the resolution.

Motion from the finance committee to approve the investment policy as presented and to authorize Brad Adams to execute a corporate authorization resolution to Tri Summit bank for the general fund. Approved unanimously.

- Replacement of the administrative assistant's computer is estimated at \$2,200 for a new computer and all needed software. The finance computer needs an upgrade to Windows 8. There is a possibility the upgrade is free, but may cost up to \$125.

Motion from finance committee to spend up to \$2,400 to replace the administrative assistant's computer and software and possibly upgrade finance computer to Windows 8 using building reserve funds. Approved unanimously.

- The parish audit is due to Evans House by August 31, 2014. To satisfy this diocesan requirement possibilities include a full audit or a financial review and both would require hiring an outside CPA; or an internal audit at no cost. A full audit could cost up at \$15,000. A financial review is more cost effective at around \$5,000 and would delve into processes and procedures regarding all financials. The recommendation was made to allow an internal audit for 2013 to be submitted to the diocese by August 31, 2014.

Motion from the Finance Committee to be allowed to find a replacement for Fred Knickerbocker for the 2013 audit, and begin interviewing CPA firms for the 2014 audit. Approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Old Business

Recording of Email motion (approved)

- After discussion concerning an appropriate gift for Fr. Craig, there was consensus that a cash gift – paid for by parishioner donations - would allow him to make his own decision on an appropriate purchase.

- **5/28/14. Motion** to present Father Craig with a cash gift of \$1000 to thank him for his service to Emmanuel over the past two+ years. Donations will be requested from the parish to repay the initial gift. Any gift in excess of the initial \$1000, less payroll taxes, will be presented to Fr Craig at a later date.

New Business

- Food City Family Race Night Parking Fundraiser – Family Promise

Motion by Mr. Mitchell to allow Family Promise Committee to raise funds by accepting donations for parking spaces during FCFRN. Second by Tina Hitt. Approved unanimously.

- Rhythm and Roots Parking Fundraiser

Motion by Ms. Rowe to approve fundraiser by accepting donations for parking spaces during Bristol Rhythm and Roots Reunion with proceeds to go to general fund. Second by Mr. Mitchell. Approved unanimously.

- Nominations for 2015 Vestry Elections
Nominating committee for 2015 Vestry Elections will include Brad Adams, Tina Hitt, Julia Rainero, and Allen Rushing.

Wardens' Reports/Remarks

David Taverner reported that Allen Rushing was working a capital project including a security camera for the office. Landscaping is still on-going and Jack Taylor has put in an enormous amount of time working on the stucco on the front of the building. Mr. Taylor and Bob Hardee have been mowing all spring/summer. Mr. Rushing, along with Steve and Maggie Green repainted the parking lot. We are very appreciative for all efforts made to continue to beautify our church.

Benediction/Adjournment The Fr. Dunagan adjourned the meeting at 7:09pm.

Sunday, September 14, 10:15 am
Rally Day at Fern Valley Farm

Thursday, September 19–Sunday, September 21
Bristol Rhythm & Roots

Saturday, October 4
St. Francis Day Pet Blessing
St. Francis Day Concert, 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 12 after 10:30 am service
Creeper Trail Bike Ride

Monday, October 13, 5:15 pm
Vestry

Sunday, November 2
All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 9, 9:15 am
Annual meeting in the Parish Hall

Thursday, November 26–Friday, November 28
Parish Office closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30, 5:00 pm
Advent Evensong

Saturday, December 5
Decorating of the Chrismon Tree. 10:00 am
St. Nicholas' Feast Day

Sunday, December 14 during 10:30 am service
Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 21, during 10:30 am service
Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 24, 5:00 pm
Christmas Eve Family Service

Wednesday, December 24, 10:00 pm
The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Thursday, December 25, 4–7:00 pm
33rd Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Sunday, January 6
Epiphany
Burning of the Greens



SEPTEMBER 2014 MESSENGER

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MESSENGER

The deadline to submit information for the October 2014 Messenger is September 19. Please be prompt.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY SERVICES

8 am Rite I
10:30 am Rite II
(with choir)

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

9:15 am Catechesis
9:30 am Rector's
Forum (Library)

WEDNESDAY SERVICE

12:15 pm
Holy Eucharist &
Laying on of Hands
Bledsoe Chapel

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wednesday,
7 pm Adult Choir

BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, 10 am
Emmanuel 2nd
Floor Conf. Room

Sunday, September 7

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18)

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14;
Matthew 18:15-20

8:00 am Lector.....Fred Knickerbocker
10:30 am Lector Zane Myers
Intercessor.....Mary Beth Rainero
Eucharistic MinistersSue Prill and David Taverner
Ushers..... Brad Adams and Jon Harden

Sunday, September 21

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 20)

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6,37-45;
Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

8:00 am Lector..... Frank Goodpasture III
10:30 am LectorAshley McLaughlin
Intercessor..... Jeremy McLaughlin
Eucharistic Ministers Tom Hairston and Tom Rogers
Ushers..... Barbara Sue Kurre and Jan Rainero

Sunday, October 5-The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22)

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

8:00 am Lector Dave Zochowski
10:30 am LectorDavid Taverner
Intercessor Jerry Medley
Eucharistic MinistersJerry Medley and David Taverner
Ushers Susan and Fred Knickerbocker

Sunday, September 14

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 19)

RALLY DAY

See page 4 for Rally Day information

Sunday, September 28

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 21)

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthews 21:23-32

8:00 am LectorDavid Taverner
10:30 am Lector Greg Oakley
IntercessorThe Rev. Preston Mitchell
Eucharistic MinistersThe Rev. Preston Mitchell
and Walt Bressler
UshersJan and Bob Bruce