



MESSENGER



From The Rector

August will be a month of preparation for our first year together. Actually, there are three concurrent years in the life of a parish. The liturgical year begins with Advent. The calendar and fiscal year begins January first.

What is sometimes called the *program year* begins in September and parallels the school year.

It is the program year we are thinking about now. We are planning educational offerings and formation for the coming year. I am looking forward to my first Rally Day as your rector on September 14. I'm very excited about my first *Rhythm and Roots* since moving to Bristol. Also in September our choir will again be vesting and offering their considerable musical gifts on Sundays. Before we know it, we will be observing the Feast of St. Francis and preparing for Advent.

I was listening to historian who was being asked about how the Church grew from its beginning as a Jewish sect in Jerusalem to the principal faith of much of western civilization. When asked why this happened the historian said he believed it was because no matter what was happening in the world, Christians always stop and have

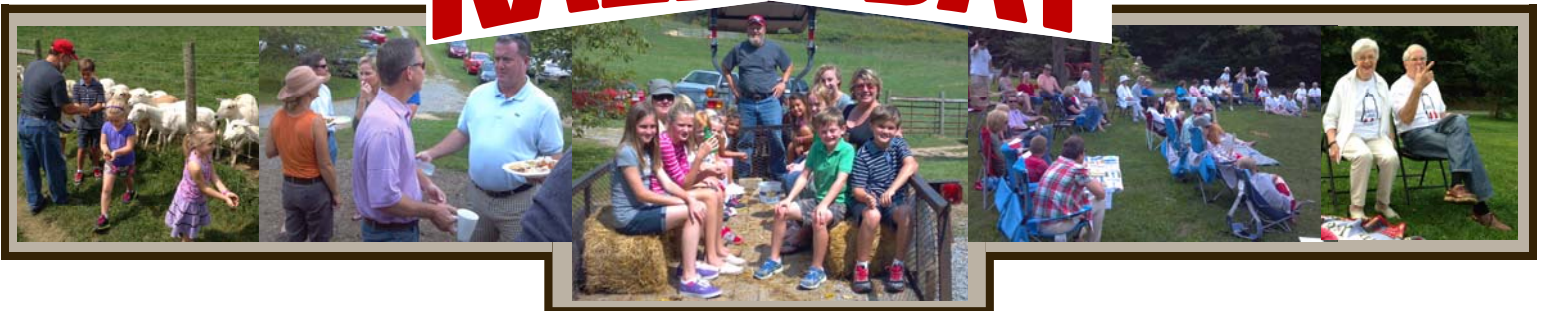
After the earth quake in Haiti, Episcopalians gathered at the site of the ruined cathedral for Sunday Eucharist, the weekly feast of the Resurrection. In the midst of all the destruction caused by the earthquake and while grieving the deaths of so many Haitians, one observer wrote about the Prayers of the People being filled with thanksgiving.

Our hope transcends the very real challenges we face. We do not diminish the cares of life. Indeed, we lift high the cross and in so doing acknowledge that suffering is part of the human condition. But we are not without hope. Our faith is based less on a learned set of beliefs or an ethical code than on our common prayers, our common experience of the presence of God, and our personal conviction that we are God's beloved. So as we prepare for the increased activities at Emmanuel as the summer winds down, let us remember who we are, whose we are, and what we are about!

See you Sunday if not before.

Join Us!

RALLY DAY



Sunday, September 14, Gathering 10:15 am

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

Please bring a covered dish to share. Drinks will be provided.

Don't forget your favorite blanket or lawn chair.

Senior Moment

2034

I recently celebrated my 20th year with the phone company. We moved to Bristol (Abingdon actually) in 1994 when Rachel was two and Jordan was still but a twinkle. (At Emmanuel, George Bunn was rector and had been for 17 years.) I use the word 'celebrated' advisedly. Working for what is now a Fortune 150 company, the celebration is performed a corporate 'acknowledgement.' At a company of nearly 50,000 employees, a cake and pocket watch for each 20th anniversary would make a serious dent in the bottom line. So efficiency dictates a certificate and a gift card. Generous, but a difference from probably how it was done two decades ago when the company's leaders were community stalwarts in Bristol and the phone company was affectionately known as 'United Intermittent.' Still, the company has been very good to me and my family, even while it and I have undergone our mergers, acquisitions and maturing.



Father Joe's presence at Emmanuel over the past almost two months has been one of learning and adjusting for all of us. There has been no need for major changes; instead, it's been a period of gentle negotiation as the parish office, wardens, and new rector have adjusted to the new order, deciding 'who's on first.' Almost immediately upon signing Joe's contract, my professional life found a way to seep into any 'free' time that I might have had with Joe taking charge. It has been a personal/professional balancing act for Joe as he's taken on new responsibilities and at the same time moved his family from Roanoke & Georgia to Bristol. But it's a transition that he has weathered with good humor and pragmatism. During Joe's first worship service with us on Pentecost, I learned the hard way that you can't guess at a former priest's liturgical experience, especially if the deacon is close by. During some unprepared remarks of introduction, I mentioned Joe's previous ordination with the Lutheran church. This was an error (it's actually Methodist); but, in follow-up, Preston 'helped' by whispering 'Baptist' followed by a wry smile; Joe concurred – the same smile - and I repeated it all as fact to the assembled. Lesson – beware the deacon! Shortly after, Joe recommended I read the Spring 2014 'Proceedings of the State LARCUM Committee of Virginia,' and write for him a 1,000-word essay on my understanding of the major differences between Lutherans, Episcopalians [Anglicans], Roman Catholics, and United Methodists. That's some heavy reading. Each has a subtle difference in its interpretation of the bible; how we're saved; how scripture is viewed. In the end, I 'borrowed' the following for a part of my assignment and claimed it was my original work. (It's actual from Garrison Keillor's 'The Young Lutheran's Guide to the Orchestra.') I'd like to think you could substitute Lutheran with Anglican or Baptist or Methodist, but I'm not sure it works - perhaps it's 40 years of how Lutherans have been described in Lake Wobegon,

or our deeply embedded cultural clichés of protestant faiths. (Try convincing a non-Episcopalian that we're not rich Catholic-lites who like to eat and drink.)

'There are two places in the orchestra for a Lutheran, and one is percussion. It's the most Lutheran instrument there is. Percussionists are endlessly patient, because they don't get to play much. Pages and pages of music go by where the violins are sawing away and the winds are tooting and the brass is blasting but the percussionist sits and counts the bars, like a hunter waiting for the quail to appear. A percussionist may have to wait for twenty minutes just to play a few beats, but those beats have to be exact and they have to be passionate and climactic. All that the epistles of Paul say a Christian should be – faithful, waiting, trusting, filled with fervor – are the qualities of the percussionist. The other Lutheran instrument, of course, is the harp. It is the perfect instrument for a Christian because it keeps you humble. You can't gallivant around with a harp. Having one is like living with an elderly parent in poor health – it's hard to get them in and out of cars, impossible to satisfy them. A harp takes fourteen hours to tune and remains in tune for twenty minutes or until somebody opens a door. It's an instrument for a saint. If a harpist could find a good percussionist, they wouldn't need an orchestra at all; they could settle down and make wonderful music, just the two of them'.

As Face Book might ask: What instrument are you? (By the way, he gave me a B- on my paper.)

Think of all the change in our lives these past 20 years; think of all the change in Bristol and its surroundings. Now project forward 20 years to 2034, and imagine what will pass and what is to come: Emmanuel close to celebrating 175 years; baptisms of those not yet born or even imagined; our children turned adult with children of their own; past lives of current parishioners celebrated and remembered on All Saints Day. Beginnings and endings; the anticipations, the unknowns. We welcome Joe, Kathy and Kate to our community – their community – and look forward to sharing current traditions, and starting new ones. The Liturgy we all have in common; others we'll enjoy introducing: Rally Day, Christmas Dinner, Rhythm and Roots. Day 1 of the next 20 years has just started; here's to the next 7300!

Emmanuel 2034: Where all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, and all the children are above average."

David

David Taverner, Senior Warden

Deacon's Word

The Rev. Preston Mitchell



Either Kristie or myself (I can't remember which one of us) named this column *Deacon's Word*, so I thought that I had better actually come up with a word

for the column. Thus the word for the month is **SUMMER**.

Summer has always been my favorite time of the year. As a young boy summer meant no school, swimming with my family, fishing with my buddy Tolbert, playing Little League baseball and staying outside until dark. As an adult it also meant no school, going on vacations with my family, taking my basketball teams to camps, and biking all over the continental United States. It was during the in-between times, I suppose as a teenager then a young adult that I spent nine summers at, Camp Burnt Gin, what was then named the South Carolina Camp for Crippled Children in Wedgefield, South Carolina.

The camp was poor, even in disrepair those first few years. A slimy, warm, alligator infested lake served for boating and swimming. A 6 X 8 foot shed served for arts and crafts. The cabins were dark, dank places that broiled in the summer time heat. But it was the most wonderful place I have ever spent time in. The kids, so many of them never having even been in school (a time before Public Law 94-142 which required schools to educate all

children) were a sundry bunch many with crutches, or wheelchairs. Many were deaf or had an extremity amputated, and there were many other physical anomalies. What they all possessed was a great appreciation and love for the counselors, staff members and each other. It was what the Irish call a "thin" place, a place where heaven and earth come closer. Those summers from 1972-1980 impacted me more than any time in my life. When I was ordained last year, two of those campers now in their fifties attended. Billy Jett, a triple amputee, was one of my presenters. Another of my presenters James Pollard, who was my supervisor at the VA hospital where I did my Clinical Pastoral Education, commented after the service that I had been ordained quite some time ago by those kids at Burnt Gin.

This summer I have had the pleasure of visiting two places that could be considered "thin" places for many, Boys Home and Grace House. My wife Patty and I along with thirty-two others in the Abingdon Convocation spent a day working and visiting with the boys at the home. Lives are certainly changed in this special place of ministry in Covington, Virginia. We also have been to Grace House on the mountain in Sandy Ridge on Sunday evenings. On one of those Sundays, Father Joe, Margaret Kearfoot, Anna Rush, Greg Roberts, and Judy Mitchell joined us and feted a youth group from St. John's in Roanoke who were embarking on a week of work with those in need. My hope is that each of you have a "thin" place where heaven and earth come closer. I encourage you to visit those places where your soul can surely be nourished and can come to know the presence of God.

August Birthdays

1 Jon Harden 6 Jan Bruce
7 Bill Hagey, Tariq Zaidi,
Tucker Couch 9 Jack Taylor
10 Karen Tillison 11 Chad
Couch 14 Peggy Rogers
19 Charlotte and Sarah
Vaughn 20 Claire Miller,
Blair Jones 21 Jerry Medley
22 Guy Briggs 26 Jan
Rainero 31 Archie Hubbard

August Wedding Anniversaries

1 Cathy and Rick Armstrong
5 Jan and Leno Rainero
9 Alethia and David Haynes
15 Sandra and Allen
Rushing 17 Susan and
Preston Mitchell, Lark and
Brad Adams 23 Elaine and
Tom Griffin, Tammy and Bob
Hardee, Hollie and Matt
Lavinder 25 Peggy and
Frank Winston 27 Melissa
and David Taverner
28 Claire and George Miller,
Thelma and Mike Blair
30 Julia and John Rainero

Prayer Requests

For our parish and families:

Louise Medley, Winifred
Campbell, Barbara Bunn,
Carla Vaughn, Mike Blair,
Gayle Mallin, Emily Hubbard,
Joyce Rodgers, Deirdre
Grogan, Lamont Tidwell, Jill
Mendiljian, Brennan
Hodges, Robert Rodgers,
and Margaret Roberts

For friends of our parish:

Ann Holler, Tracy Stark,
Kathy Frey, Emma, Sharon
Hatcher, Thomas Jones,
Nikki Guest Thomas, Chris
Mallin, Sharon Slaughter,
David Short, Michael
Johnston, Ann Gillenwater,
Chuck Serafim, John T. Kelly,
and families in the Family
Promise program

Supper Club

Join hosts Beth and Tom Rogers for Supper Club on **Sunday, August 17 at 6:00 pm** at their home 1720 Holston Dr., Bristol, TN. Please call Beth and Tom to coordinate your dish, 423-652-7429. Everyone is invited!

Supper Club is sponsored by parishioners at their home or the Parish Hall of Emmanuel and is typically the third Sunday of the month. Hosts provide the main dish and attendees bring sides and desserts. If you would like more information, or would like to host, please contact Zane Myers, 916-752-0035.

Family Promise Host Week August 17-24

Emmanuel's next host week for the Family Promise program is **August 17-24**. It takes many volunteers to make the week a success, so please consider volunteering. There is a sign-up sheet on the wall in the Parish Hall, so feel free to add your name in any of the blank spaces! Or, if you prefer, you may call committee members about specific tasks. For instance, if you want to spend the night, call Elaine Griffin at 276-466-4436. If you would like to organize a recreational activity, contact Nell Bieger at 423-989-3679. If you would like to bring dinner or serve as an evening host, call Linda Riley at 276-669-3267. If you would like to help set-up or take-down, call Bob Hardee at 276 628-9097. Let's make Emmanuel's August host week a welcoming and comfortable experience for the guest families.

Parking Fundraiser We need your help!

Emmanuel's Family Promise committee will be holding a parking fundraiser **Thursday, August 21**, from **10 am to 6 or 7 pm** for Food City Family Race Night, the big event downtown during Bristol's fall NASCAR race week. We need your help! We need a few people to work in 2-hour shifts—two people per shift. A canopy tent, water, and snacks will be provided for your comfort. Just bring your chair. It is a fun day—you meet people from all over! If interested, please contact Elaine Griffin at 276-466-4436 or email her at tdg3@bv.u.net.

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! Call the Parish Office for more information about parking for this event!

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 17

Catechesis and Adult Faith Formation resume

Sunday, August 17—Sunday, August 24

Family Promise Host Week

Sunday, August 17, 6:00 pm

Supper Club (Beth and Tom Rogers)

Thursday, August 21

Food City Family Race Night

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

Sunday, October 12 after 10:30 am service

Creeper Trail Bike Ride

Sunday, November 9, 9:15 am

Annual meeting in the Parish Hall

Thursday, November 26—Friday, November 28

Parish Office closed for Thanksgiving

Saturday, December 5, 10:00 am

Decorating of the Chrismon Tree

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

Parish Life: Activities, Events, News

S
U
P
P
E
R
C
L
U
B



J
U
L
Y
2
0
1
4

RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 14

Gathering 10:15 am

Fern Valley Farm

19310 Rollins Dr.

Please bring a covered dish to share.

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



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

Vestry News

The **April 16, 2014** Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at approximately 5:20 pm..

Members present: Brad Adams, Mike Blair, Frank Goodpasture III, Tina Hitt, Fred Knickerbocker, Doug Mitchell, Julia Rainero, Denise Rowe, Allen Rushing, David Taverner, Zane Myers and Debbie Tidwell. NOTE: Some members were present via phone.

Members absent: None.

Guests: None.

- New Business
 - Discernment Update
 - The search committee met with candidate Joe Dunagan and his wife, Kathy, on April 15 and 16. During the Rev. Dunagan's visit, those in attendance shared communion. Following supper, the Vestry met with the candidate for a wide-ranging discussion. The next day, a smaller group of Vestry met with the candidate for breakfast, and the candidate's wife met separately with another Vestry group also for breakfast.
 - Executive Session
 - Open Session

Motion: **Vestry authorizes the Wardens to enter into negotiations to draft a Letter of Agreement with the intent of calling the Rev. Joe Dunagan to be the next rector of Emmanuel Parish. The final letter of Agreement will be approved by the full Vestry at a future meeting called for that purpose: passed by unanimous vote.**

 - The Wardens will work with Doug Mitchell and Mike Blair to review the diocese letter of agreement, negotiate with the Rev. Joe Dunagan, and provide a draft agreement for the Vestry's review before an early May called Vestry meeting to approve the final LOA and to make a formal Call for the Rev. Joe Dunagan to be our next rector.

● Old Business – None discussed.

● The Vestry meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

The **May 7, 2014** called Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at approximately 5:20 pm with Mr. Taverner offering prayer.

Members present: Brad Adams, Frank Goodpasture III, Tina Hitt, Fred Knickerbocker, Doug Mitchell, Julia Rainero, Denise Rowe, Allen Rushing, David Taverner, Zane Myers and Debbie Tidwell.

Members absent: Mike Blair.

Guests: None

- New Business
 - Review of rector budget

Mr. Taverner presented the rector related budget to the Vestry followed by lengthy open discussion.

 - Review of proposed Letter of Agreement
- Mr. Taverner submitted the proposed Letter of Agreement to be presented to the Rev. Dr. Joe K. Dunagan. Vestry discussion ensued.
- ACTION: Mr. Rushing made a motion that we call the Rev. Dr. Joe K. Dunagan to be our next rector under the terms of the proposed Letter of Agreement. Ms. Tidwell provided a second to the motion: the motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- The Vestry spoke with the Rev. Dunagan by phone conference to share the news of the Vestry's decision. Father Joe expressed his appreciation to the Vestry and Discernment Committee and concluded with a prayer for Emmanuel.
- Rev. Craig Wiley transition
- ACTION: Ms. Rowe made a motion to provide a 30 day notice to end the contract with the Rev. Craig Wiley and to express our appreciation for his steadfast service to Emmanuel. Ms. Rainero provided a second to the motion: the motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- Celebrations: The Vestry discussed options for a celebration to thank the Rev. Craig Wiley for his service and a welcome celebration for the Rev. Dr. Joe K. Dunagan.
- Nursery Worker. Mr. Taverner announced that Susan Early who works in the nursery has moved to Charlottesville. The Vestry wished her well in her transition. A posting for a new worker will be made in parish mailings.
- Old Business – None discussed.
- The Vestry meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Grace.



AUGUST 2014 MESSENGER

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
emmanuelbristol@gmail.com
www.emmanuelbristol.org
(276)669-9488
700 Cumberland Street
P.O. Box 1376
Bristol, VA 24203

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BRISTOL, VA 24201
PERMIT NO. 19

Return Service Requested

MESSENGER

The deadline to submit information for the September 2014 Messenger is August 15. Please be prompt.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

(Resumes 8/17/14)
9:15 am Catechesis
9:15 am J2A-Youth

WEDNESDAY SERVICE

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

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wednesdays
(Resumes in the Fall)
7:30 pm Chancel
Choir

BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays, 10 am
Emmanuel 2nd
Floor Conf. Room

Sunday, August 10–The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 105:1-6,16-22,45b;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

8:00 am Lector..... John Harty
10:30 am Lector Seth Allen
Intercessor..... David Taverner
Eucharistic Ministers Tom Rogers and David Taverner
Ushers..... TBD

Sunday, August 24–The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 14; Romans 12:1-8;
Matthew 16:13-20

8:00 am Lector..... David Taverner
10:30 am Lector Mary Beth Rainero
Intercessor..... Sue Prill
Eucharistic Ministers Walt Bressler and Sue Prill
Ushers..... Margaret and Greg Roberts

Sunday, August 17–The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-5; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-33;
Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

8:00 am Lector TBD
10:30 am Lector Ann Martin-Thomas
Intercessor Tom Hairston
Eucharistic Ministers Harriett Harty and Tom Hairston
Ushers Beth and Tom Rogers

Sunday, August 31–The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,23-26, 45c;
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

8:00 am Lector Harriett Harty
10:30 am Lector Bob Hardee
Intercessor The Rev. Preston Mitchell
Eucharistic Ministers The Rev. Preston Mitchell
and Fred Knickerbocker
Ushers Elaine Griffin and Judy Mitchell

Sunday, September 7–The Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

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

8:00 am Lector Frank Goodpasture III
10:30 am Lector Zane Myers
Intercessor Mary Beth Rainero
Eucharistic Ministers Sue Prill and David Taverner
Ushers..... Brad Adams and Jon Harden