



MESSENGER



From The Rector

The annual Parish Meeting is November 9th. Between the eight o'clock and ten thirty Holy Eucharists, we will gather in the Parish Hall for a covered dish brunch to attend to the business of the parish which includes the beginning of the annual pledge campaign. There will be an election of new vestry members. The Nominating Committee has nominated Barbara Sue Kurre, Jeremy McLaughlin, Greg Oakley, and Barbara Wampler to replace the four members of the vestry who rotate off. Additional qualified persons may be nominated from the floor. Besides the election, there will be reports from the wardens, treasurer, deacon and me.

To say a lot is happening at Emmanuel is an understatement! 2014 has been an eventful year and we are ending it at full throttle. New landscaping is going in. Lighting is being improved inside and out. Plans are moving forward to make improvements in the library, parish hall and the office across from the conference room. We are working to improve educational and formation opportunities both with traditional classes and a

soon-to-be-announced online resource linked to our webpage. We are hosting Family Promise and Social Club. We have the great traditional feasts of the Church beginning with All Saints and continuing through Advent to Christmas, Epiphany and the Baptism of our Lord. And we anticipate two important liturgies in December, an ordination and a pastoral visit from our bishop.

In the midst of the business and busyness of doing church, it is important to return often to the font to remember who we are and to the table for spiritual nourishment. Psalm 46 says "Be still and know that I am God." On Sunday mornings at eight o'clock and ten-thirty and on Wednesdays at twelve-fifteen, we do just that. The Bible is open and the table is set waiting for you to be still and know that God is.

See you Sunday if not before.

United Thank Offering November 10, 2013

Julia Chester Emery (1852 - 1922) was the National Secretary of the Women's Auxiliary of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church for forty years, from 1876 to 1916. During her time as National Secretary, Julia visited every diocese in the United States, coordinating and encouraging work in support of missions. She founded the United Thank Offering (UTO) in 1919. This worked by giving each woman a small box with a slit in the top and encouraging her to drop a small contribution into it whenever she felt thankful for something. Once a year, the women of the parish presented these at a Sunday service. The money was sent to national headquarters to be used for missions.



You may remember the days of the small blue box with the slit in the top, and making a small donation perhaps daily in thanksgiving to God. This year, Emmanuel will collect for UTO on November 10. Any cash donation, or any check written to Emmanuel with UTO in the subject line, will be sent to the UTO organization in support of their continued and important ministry to the world.

T-Shirts Available

Emmanuel t-shirts are available for \$10 each in the Parish Hall or by coming by the office during the week. If you are interested in an Emmanuel sweatshirt for the colder months, please contact the Parish Office.



Parish Life: Activities, Events, News

NOVEMBER 2014

BIRTHDAYS

3 Emily Hubbard **9** Hilary Hurst **10** Greg Roberts. Caroline Mitchell **11** Nancy Wood, Kim Heath, David Taverner **12** Emily Kirkpatrick **14** Jud Powers, Jena Fuller **15** David Haynes **16** Fred Knickerbocker, Elayna Makres **17** Jackie Fuller, Ronnie Gentry, Zane Myers **18** Rene Rodgers, Lilley Sullivan **19** Frank Brown **21** Ann Oakley **25** Richard Horner **27** Carolyn Haynes **30** Fran Combs

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

9 Pam and Dan Rosenbalm, Valerie and Dave Zochowski **13** Edie and Jason Cannon **20** Harriett and John Harty **29** Elliott and Carl Moore

PRAYER REQUESTS

Alva, Mike Blair, Thelma Blair, Barbara Bunn, Arnell Byers, Winifred Campbell, Robert Dickert, Kathy Frey, Ann Gillenwater, Annette, Deirdre Grogan, Bill Hagey, Sharon Hatcher, Brennan Hodges, Ann Holler, Emily Hubbard, Michael Johnston, John T. Kelly, Chris Mallin, Gayle Mallin, Louise Medley, Jill Mendiljian, Mildred Murphy, Elaine Parker, Joyce Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, Peggy Rogers, Katy Sikorski, Sharon Slaughter, Tony Snyder, Tracy Stark, Nikki Guest Thomas, Lamont Tidwell, Carla Vaughn, Emma, the families in Family Promise.

Deacon's Word

The Rev. Preston Mitchell



The word for the month is **Action**. As I have stated before when I came to Emmanuel in February I was impressed with the amount and different kinds of ministry that goes on at Emmanuel and the number of groups and people that are involved with those ministries. In the last six months, we have had our UTO Fall Gathering, provided for a meal for over thirty volunteer workers at Grace house, put together pastoral care teams to reach out to those unable to fully participate in church activities, hosted a group from Boys Home, worked two months at the Soup Kitchen, hosted two weeks of Family Promise, had a meal and fellowship with folks from the community in St. Elizabeth's Guild on a monthly basis, continued to deliver meals once a month. This is only a part of the religious life of the church, but I want to thank those who are making these ministries possible.

When I first came to Emmanuel I visited Bristol Faith in Action and met with the director who told me that they were always in need of Personal Care Kits. These kits contain personal hygiene items that are not covered by Food Stamps. They include toothpaste, soap and laundry items, . I was told that we had a drive to collect money for these kits and a few people went out and purchased the items and filled the bags. This year I would like to get as many people as possible involved in filling a bag and bringing it into the parish hall on the last Sunday of the month, November 30. We will have the Two gallon containers on the table in the parish hall to pick up and a basket for you to place the bags when they are full. If you are unable to do this then you can write a check and note that it is for the Personal

Care Kit and we will purchase the items. But I would encourage that you and your family make the effort to act in behalf of others by filling the bag.

There is a wonderful story told in the 25th Chapter of the gospel of Matthew. "Come you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." We have the capacity to act on the behalf of others. Pray that we do. Part of the mission statement of Bristol Faith in Action is that our member churches and volunteers are not **part** of Bristol Faith in Action. They **are** Bristol Faith in Action.

List of Items for the Personal Care Kits
(Non-travel size)

- Shampoo
- Soap
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Razor (S)
- Small can shaving cream
- Toilet paper
- Washcloth
- Emery Board or clippers
- Deodorant
- Comb or brush

These bags can be tailored to either a man or woman.



St. Francis Day

On Saturday, October 4 we celebrated the beauty of God's earth with a blessing of the animals at the Knickerbocker farm. More than 40 parishioners participated by bringing their pets for a special blessing. Fundraiser concert was also held with all proceeds benefiting Holly Help Spay and Neuter Fund.

St. Elizabeth Guild

St. Elizabeth Guild had a guest speaker on Tuesday, October 14. Mrs. Pat Muncie did a presentation on healing oils of the bible. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, November 11 at 10:30 am**. All ladies of the church are welcome.

Poinsettia Memorials

Poinsettias will be available this Christmas for those who wish to purchase them in honor or in memory of loved ones. Please contact the Parish Office with your information and donation no later than **December 16**.

Christmas Pageant

We will once again celebrate an annual Christmas tradition with a delicious breakfast prepared by church members at **9 am on Sunday, December 21**.

Afterwards, please stay for a Christmas Pageant during the **10:30 am service**. All children are invited to participate.. If anyone is interested in helping out with the breakfast or pageant, please contact Julia Rainero at jpainero@gmail.com or 423-340-0941.



33rd Annual Christmas Dinner

Plans are well under way for the 32rd Annual Community Christmas Dinner on **Thursday, December 25**. The Dinner will begin at **4:00 pm** and last until **7:00 pm**. Volunteers are needed as kitchen workers, servers, cleanup crews, greeters, and individuals to run the elevator.

We are asking parishioners to bring non-perishable desserts on **Sunday, December 21** and leave them in the Bledsoe Chapel. On that same day, after the **10:30 am** service, we are looking for some people to assist with decorating the Parish Hall and Christmas tree in the Library.

Want to volunteer? Contact Zane Myers at 916-752-0035 or email zanemyers@hotmail.com.

Wednesday, November 5

Meals on Wheels

Sunday, November 9, 9:30 am

Annual Meeting (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, November 12, 5:00 pm

Finance Committee

Monday, November 17, 5:15 pm

Vestry

Wednesday, November 26-Friday, November 28

Parish Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Wednesday, December 3

Meals on Wheels

Saturday, December 5

St Nicholas' Feast Day

Saturday, December 5, 10:00 am

Decorating of the Chrismon Tree

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 pm

Advent Evensong

Wednesday, December 10, 5:00 pm

Finance Committee

Saturday, December 13, 3:00 pm

Ordination-Rev. Canon Kathy Kelly Dunagan

Monday, December 15, 5:15 pm

Vestry

Sunday, December 21, 9:00 am

Christmas Pageant Breakfast (Parish Hall)

Sunday, December 21 during 10:30 am service

Christmas Pageant

Tuesday, December 23-Friday, December 26

Parish Office Closed for Christmas

Wednesday, December 24, 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve Eucharist

Wednesday, December 24, 10:00 pm

Christmas Eve Eucharist

Thursday, December 25, 4-7:00 pm

33rd Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Monday, December 29

Last to submit 2014 pledge payments or request reimbursements for 2014

Tuesday, December 30-Thursday, January 1

Parish Office Closed

Sunday, January 11 Abingdon Convocation

Senior Moment



In omnibus
amare et
servire
Domino

Driving to work and to church – and with Father Joe now as rector these are no longer one and the same for me – this time of year is particularly beautiful: folded-velvet mountains to the south

and east; crisp, frosty mornings and the orange-tinted light of late afternoons; silhouetted trees slowly revealing their winter skeleton. The back roads of Washington County are replete with small country stores and country churches: rural living just a few miles from the ‘big city.’ While both centers of community enjoy their billboards and continue to inform passersby of their wares, the churches change their billboards in October from the pithy sermon-summaries – “Wrinkled By Life? Come Inside For a Faith Lift”; “How Do You Want To Spend Eternity? Smoking Or Non-Smoking,” to the more kindly expressions of thanksgiving: “Pastor Eddie, We Love and Appreciate You.”

If you read the local newspaper, you know that October is *Clergy Appreciation Month*. Photos of smiling Pastors, Brothers, and Fathers peer from the pages accompanied by a few words of thanks and perhaps a short bible verse. There are very few clerical-collared clergy pictured and I’ve seen no rectors.

Clergy Appreciation Month might easily be dismissed as another ‘Hallmark’ holiday – a pejorative term used to describe an event that seems to exist primarily for commercial purposes – National Doughnut Day, for example, is celebrated the first Friday in June. But like Boss’s Day (October 16), or Administrative Professionals’ Day (last Wednesday in April), it’s a time to celebrate and recognize the contributions of individuals within the organization. For our clergy, it’s an opportunity to say thank you for leadership, long hours on the road, pastoral visits, words of wisdom and friendship, community, a smile, a shoulder to cry on, a hand to high-five.

Clergy Appreciation Month came into being in 1992 when Jerry Frear, Jr, the founder of a ministry “devoted to

uplifting and encouraging pastors, missionaries, and Christian workers” began to promote the idea to the members of his church ministry. By 1996, the idea had caught on nationwide, thanks in part to promotion from James Dobson’s organization, Focus on the Family. Hallmark, recognizing a business opportunity, offered its first Clergy Appreciation cards in 2002, followed soon after by e-cards. In a prime example of ‘jumping the shark’ and failing to be hip, National Clergy Appreciation Month joined Facebook on October 3, 2011 and has just 209 Likes. Recognition lives on the old-fashioned way: on billboards and in newspapers.

The local messaging invariably links love with appreciation: “Brother Bob, We Love and Appreciate You,” ‘Appreciate’ is one of those words that has lots of meanings and has changed over the centuries. Its original meaning, a half-millennium ago, came from the Latin root *appreciatus*, meaning to esteem or value highly. It then morphed slightly with the increase in commerce to mean ‘to rise in value.’ It has since taken on two more meanings: the more traditional ‘to be thankful for’ and the more subtle ‘to be fully conscious of.’ In the South, it’s usually added to Love without missing a beat – much like adding ‘all’ to ‘you.’ I don’t claim to know what meaning is applied by the billboards’ authors. Having walked in the non-clergy shoes of a priest for a while, I certainly have an appreciation for the load they carry, appreciate their hard work on behalf of Emmanuel, and acknowledge the appreciable impact they have had and continue to have at Emmanuel. We are indebted to Joe, Kathy, Preston, and Craig (newly attired in shirt and tie!) for their ministry at Emmanuel and in our diocese.

We may not take an ad out in the newspaper but, if we had a suitable billboard, there would be no reason to limit ourselves to a few stunted words of thanks: “Hey guys, Y’all done Good!” We could, instead, borrow from Paul’s first letter to the new church in Thessalonica and remember the original Clergy Appreciation Month: “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father.”

David Taverner, Senior Warden

Vestry News

The **September 15, 2014** Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at 5:17 pm with a prayer.

Members present: Mike Blair, Tina Hitt, Fred Knickerbocker, Julia Rainero, Denise Rowe, Allen Rushing, and David Taverner.

Members absent: Brad Adams, Frank Goodpasture III, Doug Mitchell, Debbie Tidwell, Zane Myers.

Guests: The Rev. Kathy Dunagan, The Rev. Preston Mitchell.

Approval of August 2014 Minutes

Minutes of the August 17, 2014 Vestry meeting were approved.

Motion to accept the August 2014 minutes, by Fred Knickerbocker. Second by Denise Rowe. Approved unanimously.

Rector's Report

- Fr. Joe expressed his appreciation of all the effort to make Rally Day a success. There were 150 people present with several new faces.
- The Rector's Forum on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am has great participation. Fr. Joe is currently scheduling guest teachers.
- Several individuals have made inquiries into becoming Episcopalian. The interest has prompted research into offering a catechetical approach to faith formation including the possibility of a web-based supplement to meetings at Emmanuel.
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is having an Open House on Sunday, September 28 from 4-5:30 pm.
- There are ongoing conversations about providing something for teenagers but this remains an important missing element in Emmanuel's education and formation ministry.
- Improved utilization of social media and standards of communication needs to be addressed. Seth Allen has joined the communications committee and will assist with social media.
- Average Sunday attendance in August was 92.
- Fr. Joe will be away from the parish October 23-25 (Wednesday after Eucharist until Saturday afternoon).
- Episcopal visit tentatively scheduled for December 13th and 14th.
- The Rev. Kathy Dunagan was introduced as Canon Missioner for the Diocese of Southwest Virginia and she discussed her position and its relationship to the individual parishes within the diocese..

Deacon's Report

- Deacon Preston reported on his various activities in the parish including Sunday services, assisting with a

funeral, community outreach and pastoral care visits with shut ins and providing communion. A detail of his activities is attached.

- Boys Home Executive Director Donnie Wheatly will visit Emmanuel on Sunday, October 26th accompanied by five boys from the home. Mr. Wheatly will speak during the rector's forum at 9:30 about the activities at the Boys Home and the youth they serve. St. Elizabeth's Guild will provide a small reception for the event and a lunch for the boys.
- Deacon Preston is working to revitalize the Pastoral Care teams to visit shut-ins and those who are ill.

Wardens' Reports/Remarks

Senior Warden Report

- Background on the stewardship process from the past three years was discussed. The 2015 stewardship campaign will be implemented by a committee of parishioners led by the rector. Invitations to be part of the stewardship committee will be extended to parishioners discussed during the meeting.

Junior Warden Report

- The patio area fence has been repaired.
- Fleenor Security will be on site November 9, 10, 13, and 14 to install the security monitor.

Committee Reports

- Creeper Trail bike ride is Sunday, October 12. Blue Blazes's shuttle leaves Damascus at 1:30 pm and drops bikers at Whitetop for the decent back to Damascus. The cost for shuttle service only is \$16, bike rental and shuttle is \$27. If a child rides tandem with a parent on a bike, the shuttle fee is \$11 per child. \$400 has been donated to defray the cost for parishioners.
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is having their Open House Sunday, September 28 from
- 4-5:30 pm. All parishioners are invited.

Old Business

- Susan Early has returned to Bristol and is staffing the nursery on Sunday mornings. To remain compliant with the standards of Safeguarding God's Children, two people must be in the nursery. This will require additional budgeting in 2015.

New Business

- On the Feast of St. Francis there will be blessing of the animals at the Knickerbocker farm at 11:00 and a concert at Emmanuel at 3:00. Donations will benefit Holly Help Spay and Neuter Fund.

Prayer/Adjournment Deacon Preston offered prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 6:59.



NOVEMBER 2014 MESSENGER

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

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Return Service Requested

MESSENGER

The deadline to submit information for the December 2014 Messenger is November 21. Please be prompt.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

MORNING PRAYER

9 am
Tues, Wed, Thurs
Bledsoe Chapel

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

9:15 am Catechesis
9:15 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

10 am Thursday
2nd Floor
Conf. Room

Sunday, November 9 (Proper 27)

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7;
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

8:00 am Lector..... Dave Zochowski
10:30 am Lector Fred Knickerbocker
Intercessor..... Walt Bressler
Eucharistic Ministers Fred Knickerbocker
Ushers..... Zane Myers and Judy Mitchell
Acolytes..... Gabrielle Tidwell, Kira Adams, and Lola Spires

Sunday, November 23 (Proper 29)

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100;
Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

8:00 am Lector..... Frank Goodpasture III
10:30 am Lector Jeremy McLaughlin
Intercessor..... Ashley McLaughlin
Eucharistic Ministers Tom Rogers
Ushers..... Margaret and Greg Roberts
Acolytes..... TBD

Sunday, November 16 (Proper 28)

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11;
Matthew 25:14-30

8:00 am Lector David Taverner
10:30 am Lector Chris Yoder
Intercessor Greg Oakley
Eucharistic Ministers Sue Prill and Chris Yoder
Ushers Linda and Mike Riley
Acolytes.. Olivia Hardee, Briana Hardee, and Daniel Bieger

Sunday, November 30 The First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

8:00 am Lector Walt Bressler
10:30 am Lector Dave Zochowski
Intercessor Tom Hairston
Eucharistic Ministers... Tom Hairston and Dave Zochowski
Ushers Harriett and John Hardee
Acolytes TBD

Sunday, December 7 The Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a;
Mark 1:1-8

8:00 am Lector John Harty
10:30 am Lector Barbara Bunn
Intercessor Seth Allen
Eucharistic Ministers Sue Prill and David Taverner
Ushers Ann and Greg Oakley
Acolytes TBD

