

## From The Rector

*Forgive us as we forgive those who sin against us.*

Sometimes books that speak to us in powerful ways come from unexpected authors. A good friend told me about *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom who is best known for writing *Tuesdays with Morrie*. In *Have*

*a Little Faith* Albom writes about his relationships with an old rabbi in an affluent suburb and the reformed drug dealer and convict who is the pastor of an inner-city ministry. Both men are important to the author. Both are spiritual mentors to him, spiritual friends who teach him important lessons.

The rabbi has served his congregation honorably, ably, and tirelessly for decades. Under his care the congregation moved from an old house to a beautiful synagogue and school. When the time came for the rabbi to retire, the synagogue was full of people whose lives he had touched. His last sermon before becoming Rabbi Emeritus was about atonement. He asked their forgiveness for the many ways he had disappointed them.

As we prepare for our third Easter together I am reminded of this. We are a people characterized by the capacity to forgive. The prayer our Lord gave us begins with and continues throughout in first person plural, *our* Father, lead us, deliver us, forgive us as we

forgive. We are a covenant people and the glue that holds that covenant together is forgiveness. At its essence the covenant is confidence that, no matter how we may disappoint God and our sisters and brothers in the faith we are still God's beloved and we are still a spiritual family. We are forgiven and forgiving people.

I know there have been times when I have been a disappointment. You may have disagreed with a decision I made or I may not have been attentive enough or insensitive. Forgive me. Serving Emmanuel is the most important thing I have ever done and the most rewarding. Serving Christ in this setting has given me stronger faith. The sermons I preach feel like an ongoing conversation among people who are listening for God's Word. The people I have baptized are my greatest joy. The high point of each week is when we come back to the Table as a spiritual family, the body of Christ.

So let us forgive each other as we ask and accept the forgiveness of God. Let us turn our focus from the things that divide and focus on that which unites, the cross of Christ. Let us look again into the face of the One who loves us and calls us to love one another. Each time we hear how the women found the tomb empty on Easter Sunday morning we climb a bit higher on the spiral staircase to atonement and perfect peace.

See you Sunday if not before.

## EASTER AT EMMANUEL

*The Easter Vigil*

Saturday evening, April 15 at 8:00 p.m.

We will begin, weather permitting, on the Labyrinth with the lighting of a new fire from which the Paschal Candle is lit. We will process into the church following the light of Christ as *The Exultant* is chanted.

During this first Easter liturgy we will baptize new Christians

*Easter Sunday Morning* Eucharist's will be at the regular times, eight and ten-thirty.

Remember that Easter is the season culminating with *Pentecost*, this year on June 4.

# Parish Life: Activities, Events, News

## *Holy Week at Emmanuel*

### **Palm Sunday–Holy Eucharist**

Saturday, April 8–Bledsoe Chapel

Rite II–5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 9

Rite I–8:00 a.m.

### **Procession of the Palms**

10:00 a.m.

*Gather in the labyrinth, weather permitting.  
Inclement weather, gather in the Parish Hall*

Rite II–10:30 a.m.

### **Holy Eucharist**

Wednesday, April 12, 12:15 p.m.

### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.

### **Good Friday Service**

Friday, April 14, 12:00 p.m.

### **Stations of the Cross**

Friday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

### **Easter Vigil**

Saturday, April 15, 8:00 p.m.

### **Easter Sunday, April 16**

#### **Holy Eucharist**

Rite I–8:00 a.m.

Rite II–10:30 a.m.



## King Institute presents Dr. Norman Wirzba

Norman Wirzba, professor of theology, ecology and rural life at Duke Divinity School at Duke University will speak at Emmanuel on Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. the last of the King Institute lecture series for this academic year. A noted speaker and teacher, he is recognized for his interest

and research in the intersections of theology, philosophy, ecology and agrarian and environmental studies. He has edited and authored numerous books, the most recent being *Way of Love: Recovering the Heart of Christianity* and *From Nature to Creation: A Christian Vision for Understanding and Loving Our World*. Wirzba strives to understand and promote practices that can equip Christian church communities "to be more faithful and responsible members of creation."

# Ladies Night Out

Thursday, May 4  
6:00 pm

*Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
Parish Hall*

-  *World-famous quiche*
-  *Salad*
-  *Dessert*
-  *Bring some wine to share*
-  *Childcare available*
-  *\$5 donation suggested*

*Please **R.S.V.P.** to Jan Bruce  
janwbruce@mac.com or  
423-989-3240  
Especially if childcare is needed*



# Parish Life: Activities, Events, News



## Reminder to Meals on Wheels Drivers

Meals on Wheels is the first Wednesday each month  
**April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6,  
October 4, November 1, and December 6**

*Thank you all for your ministry in our community.  
Contact Sandra Rushing for more information.*

## SOCIAL CLUB

**Tuesday, April 4, 6:00p.m.**

Join us for an evening of great food, bingo and prizes, and fellowship.

### 2017 Social Club Dates

**April 4  
July TBD  
October 3**

**May 2  
August 1  
November 7**

**June 6  
September 5  
December 5**

## Parish Workday

Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m. we will have a parish workday to prepare for the Easter season. If you're willing to assist us, please bring your rake, broom, and any other tools or cleaning products you think would be useful. We are in need of a limb cutter, small saws and pruning tools.

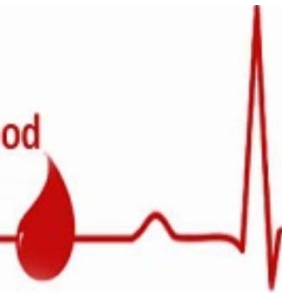
A few years ago the Bristol Public School System lost our drama teacher and most of her family to domestic violence, and last May we lost our superintendent to suicide. Even the city of Bristol has seen an increase in random and domestic violence. The senior class of Virginia High School is working to **stop the bleeding and start healing**.

We are working with Marsh Regional Blood Center to have every senior in the 2017 graduating class earn their red cord of distinction. Each senior must donate a total of three pints of blood or have someone donate for them to receive their red cord. This is where we need your help. We have around 200 of the almost 500 donations needed for our seniors. Several of our seniors are playing sports and cannot donate. Many of our seniors do not make the weight requirement, are on medications, or have health conditions that prevent them from donating



Give the gift of life.

Donate blood



If you would like to donate for a senior, the donor must have a senior name. If a donor donates for a senior that already has three donations, we will not receive credit for that donation so we have to be careful and not give names that already have donations. Please contact Kristie Faylor in the parish office for the name of a VHS senior.

## Leidig Lectureship in Poetry

**EMORY & HENRY  
COLLEGE**



Nikky Finney  
will speak  
Thursday, April  
13 at 7:30 p.m.  
at the Main  
Stage Theatre,

McGlothlin Center for the Arts. She is a professor at the University of South Carolina who explores the powerful synergy between art and history in her poetry. She has authored four books of poetry and co-founded Affrilachian Poets. Free to the public.

**Spring Coral Concert:** The Emory and Henry College Choirs will present their spring concert, **Making Love Known**, on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Stage Theatre, McGlothlin Center for the Arts. The musical styles range from lullabies to gospel, hymns to 80's pop with works by Steven Paulus, Rollo Dilworth, Palestrina, and Peter Gabriel. Admission is \$10.

**Instrumental Spectacular:** Performances by E&H instrumental ensembles directed by Dr. Matthew Frederick will be April 23 at 3 p.m., Main Stage Theatre, McGlothlin Center for the Arts. Admission is \$10.

# Birthdays, Anniversaries & Prayers

## Memorials

Barbara Sue and Joe Kurre	Isaac Joseph McLaughlin	Joyce Black
Harriett and John Harty	Judith and Philip Kazemersky	Lori and Mike Hill
	Ruth King	

## Lay Minister Schedule & Propers

### Sunday, April 2–The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

8:00 am Lector ..... John Simpson  
 10:30 am Lector ..... Barbara Simpson  
 Intercessor ..... Tom Rogers  
 Lay Eucharistic Minister ..... Tom Rogers  
 Acolytes ..... Jack, Mayne, Millie, Judson, Amelia, Lana  
 Ushers ..... Monica and Daniel Shew

### Sunday, April 9–Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;  
 Matthew 26:14- 27:66

8:00 am Lector ..... Fred Knickerbocker  
 10:30 am Lector ..... Bob Hardee  
 Intercessor ..... Jeremy McLaughlin  
 Lay Eucharistic Minister ..... Jeremy McLaughlin  
 Acolytes ..... Tucker, Grace, Adilyn, Kira, Hagan, Bree  
 Ushers ..... Cher Marshall and Bryan Young

### Thursday, April 13–Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1–14; Psalm 116:1, 10–17; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; John 13:1–7; 31b–35

### Friday, April 14–Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14–17; 5:7–9; John 18:1–19:42

### Saturday, April 15–The Great Vigil of Easter

Genesis 1:1–2:4a; Psalm 136:1–9; 23–26; Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18, 8:6–18; 8:9–13; Psalm 46;  
 Exodus 14:10–15:1; Canticle 8; Ezekiel 36:24–28; Psalms 42 and 43

### Sunday, April 16–Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34–43; Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24; 1 Corinthians 15:19–26; John 20:1–18

8:00 am Lector ..... Frank Goodpasture III  
 10:30 am Lector ..... Walt Bressler  
 Intercessor ..... Sharon Kyser  
 Lay Eucharistic Minister ..... Walt Bressler  
 Acolytes ..... Hagan, Lola, Millie, Judson, Mayne, Sosie  
 Ushers ..... Jan Rainero and Harriett Harty

### Sunday, April 23–The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Acts 2:14a, 22–32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3–9; John 20:19–31

8:00 am Lector ..... Dave Zochowski  
 10:30 am Lector ..... Fred Knickerbocker  
 Intercessor ..... Debbie Tidwell  
 Lay Eucharistic Minister ..... Daniel Shew  
 Acolytes ..... Jack, Mayne, Millie, Judson, Amelia, Lana  
 Ushers ..... Barbara Walling and TBD

### Sunday, April 30–The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Acts 2:14a, 36–41; Psalm 116:1–3, 10–17; 1 Peter 1:17–23; Luke 24:13–34

8:00 am Lector ..... John Simpson  
 10:30 am Lector ..... Tom Rogers  
 Intercessor ..... Michael Webb  
 Lay Eucharistic Minister ..... Harriett Harty  
 Acolytes ..... Jack, Mayne, Millie, Judson, Amelia, Lana  
 Ushers ..... TBD

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Kitty Pitini
- 5 Bill Marburg
- 7 Daniel Shew
- 8 Rick Armstrong
- 8 Anne Stuart, Ann Tickle
- 9 Susan McCall  
Barbara Simpson  
Amelia Jarrard  
Anne Neese  
Jordan Taverner
- 15 Lisa Mitchell
- 16 Justin Carson  
Nicki Robinette
- 17 Molly Wurmser
- 28 Bob Hardee  
Tineke Marburg  
Jeremy McLaughlin
- 30 Cooper Harmon

## APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Veronica and Jack Taylor
- 11 Fran and Jim McGlothlin
- 17 Carolyn and Kerry Haynes
- 20 Sue and Jim Prill
- 23 Joyce and Robert Rodgers
- 28 Nancy and Matt Wood

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Jim Barber, Ruby Barber, Diane Bedwell, Carol Biegler, June Bradley, Henry Brewer, Sue Brickey, Barbara Bunn, Lisa Campbell, Winifred Campbell, Ben Crenshaw, Sharon Cross, Willie Crumley, Ivy Daniels, Alva, Emma, Lint Ellington, Dee Flanagan, Ham Fuller, Annette, Sharon Hatcher, Tom Hurt, Joe Kurre, Donald McCathy, Amber McLeroy, Jill Mendiljian, Claire Miller, George Miller, Dan Morgan, Mark Morgan, Rachael Morgan, Laura Pearson, Jack Presnell, Renea Ramey, Rick Rimer, Ann Roberts, Jim Rodgers, Joyce Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, Denise Rowe, Emma Russell, Felicity Russell, Norma Shew, Sharon Slaughter, Lindsey Stiltner, Mary Jo Thomas, Musser Warren, and Braydon

# April 2017 Parish Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>5 pm</b> Holy Eucharist
2 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Holy Eucharist <b>9:15 am</b> Faith Formation	3	4 <b>10 am</b> Staff Meeting  <b>6:00 pm</b> Social Club	5 Meals on Wheels <b>12:15 pm</b> Holy Eucharist	6 <b>10 am</b> Lectionary Study	7	8 <b>5 pm</b> Holy Eucharist
9 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Holy Eucharist <b>9:15 am</b> Faith Formation	10 <b>7 pm</b> Norman Wirzba	11 <b>10 am</b> Staff Meeting	12 <b>12:15 pm</b> Holy Eucharist <b>7 pm</b> Choir	13 <b>10 am</b> Lectionary Study  <b>7 pm</b> Maundy Thursday Service	14 <b>12:00 pm</b> Good Friday service  <b>7 p.m.</b> Stations of the Cross	15 <b>8 pm</b> The Great Vigil of Easter Holy Eucharist
16 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Holy Eucharist <b>9:15 am</b> Faith Formation	17	18 <b>10 am</b> Staff Meeting	19 <b>12:15 pm</b> Holy Eucharist <b>5:30 pm</b> Finance Committee <b>7 pm</b> Choir	20 <b>10 am</b> Lectionary Study	21 May Messenger Deadline	22 <b>5 pm</b> Holy Eucharist
23 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Holy Eucharist <b>9:15 am</b> Faith Formation	24 <b>5:30 pm</b> Vestry	25 <b>10 am</b> Staff Meeting	26 <b>12:15 pm</b> Holy Eucharist <b>7 pm</b> Choir	27 <b>10 am</b> Lectionary Study	28	29 <b>5 pm</b> Holy Eucharist
30 <b>8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Holy Eucharist <b>9:15 am</b> Faith Formation	31					



## Easter Lily Memorials

Easter Lily's will be available again this year for those who wish to purchase them in honor or memory of loved ones. Please fill out the form and return it to the church office with your donation no later than April 11.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor      In Memory

*Please circle one*

From \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Vestry News

The February 20, 2017 Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at 5:18 p.m.

Members present: Jade Carson, Barbara Walling, Sharon Kyser, Tom Rogers, Jeremy McLaughlin, Barbara Sue Kurre, Greg Oakley, Richard Wolfe, Michael Webb

Members absent: Maggie Green, Audrey Zaidi, Tom Hairston

## Rector's Report

- December average Sunday attendance was 142. December Wednesday average was 9. January average Sunday attendance was 96. January Wednesday average was 7.
- The Valentine's Day Mary Landrum Fundraiser garnered \$1,800.
- Should the PEW be printed each week as a separate document? After discussion, the decision was made to continue the emailed version of the Pew but to incorporate the contents into the service booklets rather than a separate printed edition.
- Theodora Klayman, a holocaust survivor will speak at Emmanuel on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. as part of the King Institute on Faith and Culture lecture series.
- Ladies of Emmanuel researched Amazon Smile which allows individuals to make regular purchases on Amazon and a portion of the sale is given to a charity. LoE would like to set up Emmanuel as a recipient.
- LoE will bring a presentation to the March Vestry regarding their next projects.
- Verizon Wireless notified Emmanuel that a fraudulent account had been set up in the church's name. They have contacted authorities and the account has been shut down and we will not be responsible for the charges.
- Daughters of the King is a ministry of the Episcopal Church. There is interest in having a chapter at Emmanuel.
- Lenten Soup Suppers – a request has been made the soup be catered instead of asking participants to bring soup to share. The vestry agreed. The Parish Administrator will contact Brian Knickerbocker to see if he is available to cater. The janitorial staff will be asked to come in and clean after the Soup Suppers.
- Ash Wednesday services with imposition of ashes will be at 12:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Fr. Joe will be at Commission on Ministry and Administrative Board meetings March 2 and 3.

## Director of Formation Ministries Report

- Eleven youth were present for a youth gathering at the Biegers' home on Sunday, February 19.
- Youth are meeting twice a month in the evenings.
- Ann Oakley has been a huge asset to the program.
- Recruiting more adults to assist with youth.

- Urban outreach-camp – members of our youth program will perform service at local agencies in the community.
- Young adult group on Wednesday has chosen the name "Happy Our." Numbers have increased and there is typically a full house each Wednesday.
- Acolytes will sponsor the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 28 at 5:30 p.m.
- There is an acolyte convocational festival in Wytheville in May
- John Simpson will go before the Commission on Ministry at their March meeting.

## Senior Warden Report

- Emmanuel's assigned month to assist with Soup Kitchen is March and we need two volunteers each day. Please consider signing up.

## Junior Warden Report

- Wright Lawn Care submitted a quotation of \$1,100 for re-mulching the property. It includes 200 bags of mulch, and preening. Motion made to approve \$1,100 for re-mulching made by Jeremy McLaughlin. Second by Sharon Kyser. Motion approved unanimously.
- A-1 Tree Service submitted an estimate and proposal to remove the trees behind the court yard area and behind the basketball goal. This does not have to be done all at once. More information will be brought to the vestry in March.

## Treasurer's Report

- We have received the final accounting for 2016 finishing the year in sound financial shape. There were areas in which we exceeded the budget but expenditures had been appropriately approved.

## Old Business

- The parking lot across the street from the bell tower is in need of repairs and signage is needed. Greg Oakley suggested a task force be organized as it will be a costly project. Initial task force members will be Greg Oakley, Barbara Walling, and Jeremy McLaughlin. They will bring back to the vestry in March proposals for public access, signs, and costs of improvements.
- Michael Webb provided information regarding year round stewardship. He and Tom Hairston have been working on the process that also includes planned giving. See attached hand-outs.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



**APRIL 2017**  
**MESSENGER**

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**MESSENGER**

*The deadline to submit information for the May 2017 Messenger is April 21. Please be prompt.*

Weekly Schedule

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. Rite I  
10:30 a.m. Rite II  
Holy Eucharist

**SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION**

9:15 a.m. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Youth Formation

9:30 a.m.  
Adult Formation

**WEDNESDAY**

12:15 p.m.  
Holy Eucharist & Prayers for Healing  
Bledsoe Chapel

6:00 p.m.  
Young Adult Formation

7:00 p.m.  
Choir

**BIBLE STUDY**

10 a.m.  
Thursday

**SATURDAY SERVICE**

5:00 p.m.  
Holy Eucharist



**Sunday, April 9**

Our Palm Sunday Procession will begin at **10:00 a.m.**

Please gather in the Labyrinth  
*In the event of inclement weather, meet in the Parish Hall*

There is no change to the 8:00 a.m. Eucharist.



**Saturday, April 15**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Eucharist and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Please gather in the Labyrinth.

