



From The Rector



In the Easter Vigil sermon I told the story of a prayer plant I was given by old friends years ago as a going away gift. These house plants are called prayer plants or, sometimes, angel plants because their leaves open up in the morning. I'm sentimental about the plant because I've had it so long. Today there are three pots

containing plants descended from that first gift. One is in an upstairs window at home where it gets the full benefit of the early morning sunlight. Another is downstairs, also on the east side of the house, but it does not get as much sunlight. The third is in my study at Emmanuel.

Everything else being equal, the size and quality of the leaves on these plants is directly dependent on their exposure to the sun. As you would guess, the one upstairs that gets the most light has big, lush green foliage. The other two get enough light to survive, but they are not flourishing.

At the Easter Vigil we remember the way the Gospel of John speaks of Jesus as the Light of the World saying, "In the beginning

was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1: 1-5)

We are working hard to make sure there is no summer slump at Emmanuel. John has organized a summer Sunday school program for children along with other activities. Stephanie and Chris have plans for special musical offerings during the summer. The lectionary during Ordinary Time which starts in June complements the season of feasts with sequential readings giving us the opportunity to go deeper into God's Word for us during the summer. All these things depend on our faithfulness to our baptismal promise to "continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers."

When we enjoy the longer, warmer days of the season, let us not neglect the true light of the world so that we may continue to grow and flourish!


See you Sunday if not before.

Ladies Night Out

Thursday, May 4
6:00 pm

Emmanuel Episcopal Church Parish Hall

 *World-famous quiche*

 *Bring some wine to share*

 *Salad*

 *Childcare available*

 *Dessert*

 *\$5 donation suggested*

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



Frequently Asked Questions about Communion

Who may receive Communion in the Episcopal Church?

Episcopalians believe that all Christians, regardless of where they were baptized, may receive Communion. This includes visitors and children. Our sisters and brothers in other traditions have good arguments for limiting communicants to those who have been confirmed or to members of the particular local congregation. Our reasons for being more open have to do with, first, our belief that baptism in the name of the Trinity is full initiation into the household of faith. Second, our understanding of the Biblical affirmation of “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Ephesians 4: 5). Lastly the creedal affirmation of “one holy catholic and apostolic Church” and “one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.”

When should I not receive Communion?

The liturgy usually includes a general confession with absolution and it always includes the Passing of the Peace. The confession is collective. Notice the use of first person plural, “We confess that we have sinned.” This is the Church admitting that we have failed to live into the baptismal covenant. The Peace is not an intermission or a time to say hello. Rather it is the people saying that all is forgiven and that we are ready *in the peace of the Lord* to be the spiritual family gathered at the Lord’s Table. The Peace always starts with the priest exchanging peace with the congregation. This exchange is essential for the Eucharist to proceed since the one who presides must have the forgiveness of the people. Then, individuals within the congregation, often starting with their own families, exchange the peace. So we come to the Altar as forgiven and reconciled people.

If you are distracted because of unreconciled sin, you may elect not to receive the sacrament and should speak with a priest.

How do I receive?

One of the Eucharistic ministers, usually the priest who is presiding, will distribute the sacramental bread. You may either kneel or stand. Hold out your hands with the palm open, and the priest will place the blessed Bread in your hand. Some people prefer for the priest to place the Bread on their tongue, so they fold their hands and look up at the priest with their mouth open.

The common cup is an important symbol of our faith. If you are not comfortable drinking from the cup, it is perfectly acceptable to only take the Bread. Intinction, dipping the Bread into the cup, is discouraged. However, if you do choose this means of receiving both species at once, please be very careful not to let your fingers touch the liquid. Parents should do this for small children.

When serving the chalice, the Eucharistic minister holds it by the stem. You should gently tilt the bottom of the chalice so the rim touches your bottom lip and then raise the cup until you taste the wine. The minister will wipe the spot that touched your lip with a purificator (the linen napkin) and rotate it before serving the next person.

When do I make the sign of the cross?

The Book of Common Prayer does not direct Episcopalians when to make the sign of the cross at Communion. It is a matter of local custom and personal piety. Many people make the sign before receiving, after, or both.

Holy Week and The Gospel of Mark

As part of our Holy Week spiritual discipline, a small group of youth and parents gathered at the labyrinth to read the Gospel of Mark in its entirety. We took turns chapter-by-chapter. Those not reading could reflect on what they were hearing by drawing mandalas, walking the labyrinth, and journaling, just to name a few. Coincidentally, we read the chapter on Jesus’ crucifixion at 3 o’clock on Friday. Participants said hearing the whole gospel story gave them a new perspective of Jesus’ life and ministry.



Formation News

The Director of Formation Ministries



We are well on our way now into the season of Easter, and even looking expectantly to the Feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. And indeed in our own corner of the Body of Christ at Emmanuel, there is much to look

forward to. I always say that summer offers opportunities for formation that we don't get other times in the year. Take a minute to find out how Emmanuel will continue to form disciples in the summer months.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd has had a wonderful year, welcoming new catechists who guide a growing group of children as they learn about our faith. The children will continue to enjoy Sundays at Emmanuel with **Summer Enrichment for Emmanuel's Kids (SEEK)**. SEEK will be filled with music, instruction in the Sacraments, Bible stories, and fun, and our kids will have an opportunity to worship with the entire church. SEEK will run from 9:30 to 10:15 every Sunday until Catechesis returns in the fall. There will be singing led by Stephanie and Chris Yoder, as well as time

with Fr. Joe learning about the sacraments. If you are interested in helping shepherd kids for a few weeks this summer, please contact me at emmanuelforma@gmail.com. I'd be happy to work with your schedule.

Middle schoolers and high schoolers have been increasingly active this year and it doesn't look to cool off too much this summer. At the end of the school year in late May, we'll be spending three days in urban mission here in Bristol in what I'm calling Episcopal Outreach Camp (E.O.C.). In the morning we'll learn about an area agency in service to the community and spend some time working on a project for them. After our work is done we'll cool our heels and have some fun. And we'll book-end our days together in prayer. The bi-monthly youth outings will continue, so keep your ear out for those. And a select group of awesome and dedicated lay ministers will begin training to lead our new Sunday school and youth group curriculum, Journey to Adulthood, or J2A. We've already been testing out elements of the program on Sunday mornings, but it's exciting to begin to ramp it up.

Emmanuel will be active this summer!

Ryon Simora Completes Scout Requirements: God and Me



Ryon Simora, grandson of George and Claire Miller, completed the requirements for the Cub Scouts' *God and Me* badge and was presented his award at the 10:30 service on April 23. The *God and Me* badge is the first of four religious achievements scouts can earn. Ryon and George met with John Simpson weekly for over a month, not to mention significant effort made at home. The program explores the Creation story, the gift of Jesus, the importance of prayer, and what our response will be to all of this in the world.

Parish Life: Activities, Events, News

SOCIAL CLUB

Tuesday, May 2, 6:00p.m.

Great food, bingo and prizes, and fellowship.

Prizes needed—The Social Club is a mission of the church which provides dinner, fellowship and fun for our neighbors the first Tuesday of each month. Our next meal is Tuesday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m. Prizes for our after-dinner bingo game are always welcome. Prizes can range from jewelry, to food, to sunglasses, to puzzles, to books or whatever your imagination can come up with. Prizes can be dropped off at the church office. For more information contact Doug Mitchell [423-483-1172](tel:423-483-1172) or dmitchell8257@gmail.com.



Reminder to Meals on Wheels Drivers

Meals on Wheels is the first Wednesday each month
**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.*

Congratulations



Chad Couch who is graduating from Tennessee High School. Chad will attend King University.

Alex Faylor who is graduating from Virginia High School. Alex will attend Virginia Tech.

Aly Fuller who is graduating from Virginia High School. Aly will attend Virginia Tech.

Briana Hardee who is graduating from Abingdon High School. Briana will attend James Madison University.

Sadie Harden who is graduating from Apex High School in North Carolina. Sadie will attend Davidson College.

The Rev. **Kathy Dunagan** who will graduate from the Advanced Degree Program of the School of Theology at Sewanee with the degree Doctor of Ministry on May 12.

Robyn Kealey who will graduate from King University with a master's degree in nursing.

If there are more graduates please notify the parish office.

Convocational Work Day

Boys Home—Covington

Saturday, May 20

Contact Fr. Joe for more information

S.E.E.K

Summer Enrichment for Emmanuel Kids

Formation for ages 4–12 will continue all summer long through S.E.E.K.

Music, Bible Stories, and More

9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
every Sunday starting
Sunday, May 28

Drop-off and pick-up will be in the hallway outside the nursery and Atrium II.

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Prayers

Memorials

Isaac Joseph McLaughlin

Given by
Judy Mitchell

Given by
Dr. and Mrs. Sarfraz Zaidi

Lay Minister Schedule & Propers

Sunday, May 7–The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

8:00 am Lector Fred Knickerbocker
10:30 am Lector Ashley McLaughlin
Intercessor Janet Jayne
Lay Eucharistic Minister Chris Yoder
Acolytes Jack, Mayne, Judson, Amelia
Ushers Jade and Justin Carson

Sunday, May 14–The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14;

8:00 am Lector Frank Goodpasture III
10:30 am Lector Sharon Kyser
Intercessor Barbara Simpson
Lay Eucharistic Minister Tom Hairston
Acolytes Tucker, Grace, Adilyn, Blaine, Hagan, Graham
Ushers Nell and Dan Bieger

Sunday, May 21–The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:7-18; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21;

8:00 am Lector Dave Zochowski
10:30 am Lector Mary Beth Rainero
Intercessor Walt Bressler
Lay Eucharistic Minister Daniel Shew
Acolytes Daniel, Lola, Kira, Mayne, Sosie, Bree
Ushers Michael Webb and TBD

Sunday, May 28–The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11;

8:00 am Lector John Simpson
10:30 am Lector Tom Rogers
Intercessor Jeremy McLaughlin
Lay Eucharistic Minister Tom Rogers
Acolytes David, Grace, Lana, Millie, Judson
Ushers Shawna and Brian Knickerbocker

Sunday, June 4–Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21; or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:25-35, 37; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; or Acts 2:1-21;

John 20:19-23; or John 7:37-39
8:00 am Lector Fred Knickerbocker
10:30 am Lector Michael Webb
Intercessor Debbie Tidwell
Lay Eucharistic Minister Daniel Shew
Acolytes Jack, Amelia, Tucker, Adilyn
Ushers Linda and Mike Riley

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jon Harden
- 2 Spike Tickle
- 4 Ann Christ
- 7 John Byers, William King
- 8 Jo Anne Hairston
Doug Harmon
- 10 Jim Woodrum
- 11 Peter Combs
- 12 Harper Slaughter
- 13 John Ed Fuller
- 14 Tracey Harmon
- 15 Kathy Dunagan
- 18 Bert Tscheiner
- 20 Brady Goodpasture
Chris Mallin, Julie Slagle
- 21 Mimi Knickerbocker
- 23 Ed Hitt
- 25 David Bieger
- 27 Pierce Elliott
Susan McLean, Linda Riley
Michael Webb
- 31 Steve Green

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Paige and John Terry
- 4 Arnell and John Byers
- 8 Candie and Chris Horner
- 16 Julie and Jon Slagle
- 17 Janet and Larry Jayne
- 25 Nell and Dan Bieger
- 30 Lisa and Steve Martin

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jim Barber, Ruby Barber, Diane Bedwell, Carol Biegler, Henry Brewer, Sue Brickey, Eda Brink, Barbara Bunn, Lisa Campbell, Winifred Campbell, Ben Crenshaw, Sharon Cross, Willie Crumley, Ivy Daniels, Alva, Emma, Dee Flanagan, Doris Hagey, Annette, 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, Braydon

May 2017 Parish Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						29 5 pm Holy Eucharist
30 8 & 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Faith Formation Catechesis Open House after 10:30 service	1	2 10 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Social Club	3 Meals on Wheels 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 7 pm Choir	4 10 am Lectionary Stud 6 pm Ladies Night Out	5	6 5 pm Holy Eucharist
7 8 & 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Faith Formation	8	9 10 am Staff Meeting	10 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 5:30 pm Finance Committee 6 pm Young Adults 7 pm Choir	11 10 am Lectionary Study	12 June Messenger Deadline	13 5 pm Holy Eucharist
14 8 & 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Faith Formation	15 5:30 pm Vestry	16 10 am Staff Meeting	17 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 6 pm Young Adults 7 pm Choir	18 10 am Lectionary Study	19	20 5 pm Holy Eucharist
21 8 & 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Faith Formation	22	23 10 am Staff Meeting Episcopal Outreach Camp	24 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 7 pm Choir	25 10 am Lectionary Study	26	27 5 pm Holy Eucharist
28 8 & 10:30 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 am Faith Formation 9:30 am S.E.E.K	29 Parish Office Closed for Memorial Day	30	31 12:15 pm Holy Eucharist 7 pm Choir			

FEAST of the ASCENSION

Thursday, May 25 6:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

Vestry News

The March 20, 2017 Vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order at 5:16 p.m.

Members present: Jade Carson, Tom Hairston, Barbara Sue Kurre, Sharon Kyser, Jeremy McLaughlin, Greg Oakley, Tom Rogers, Barbara Walling, Richard Wolfe, and Audrey Zaidi

Members absent: Maggie Green, Michael Webb

The minutes of the February 20, 2017 Vestry meeting were unanimously approved.

Rector's Report

- February attendance: 109 Sundays; 10 Wednesdays; 20 Candlemas
- Next Month's Vestry meeting will be April 24.
- The next King University lecture at Emmanuel will be Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. with Professor Norman Wirzba of Duke University Divinity School.
- Holy Week schedule will remain as it has in years past. The calendar is included at the end of the minutes.
- John Simpson was approved for postulancy and is in the seminary application process. Following discussion it was agreed that Fr. Joe would form a task force chaired by the Senior Warden to recommend a job description for the staff position and to remain in place to help coordinate his or her ministries.
- Fr. Joe asked Jan Bruce to speak behalf of the Ladies of Emmanuel and their plan to refurbish the conference room. LoE estimates that it would take approximately \$2,000 to purchase new blinds, light fixtures, carpeting, paint, and a whiteboard. Jan also presented color swatches and photos of potential light fixtures and the whiteboard. Tom Hairston made a motion to approve the LoE recommendation to refurbish the Conference Room. Jeremy McLaughlin made a second. Motion approved unanimously.
- Jan Bruce announced that the Ladies of Emmanuel will host a Ladies Night Out on May 4 for all women in the parish.

Director of Formation Ministries Report

- John Simpson thanked the vestry for their support leading to his becoming a postulant for holy orders.
- Brian and Shawna Knickerbocker and Cher Marshall have been assisting with the Sunday school program.
- Lenten texts are being sent daily to parishioners who signed up.
- Summer catechesis plans are under way.

Senior Warden Report

- Lay Eucharistic Visitors who take the Sacrament to persons unable to attend are a needed ministry in our parish.

Junior Warden Report

No report.

Treasurer's Report

- Greg Oakley reviewed the financial portion of the 2016 parochial report. The capital expenditures/non-operating expenses will be revised to include \$29,000 for replacing the elevator and \$35,124 to refurbish the stained glass windows. The cash values and money market totals also need revision with the assistance of SE Tax.
- The Finance Committee recommends approving \$2,000 for the Ladies of the Evening to renovate the conference room. Motion passed unanimously.
- The Finance Committee recommends continued funding the Director of Formation Ministries position.
- Greg Oakley presented the January 2017 financials. See attached.

Committees and Ministries

- Tom Hairston will present a year-round giving plan at the April vestry meeting.

Old Business

- Barbara Walling and Fr. Joe met with Randall Perkins from Blackbird Bakery on March 10 to discuss the parking lot across the street. There was discussion about the needed repairs, liability issues, signage, and control of access.

New Business

- It was unanimously agreed that the April meeting would be at 5:30 on April 24. This is a week later than usual because of Easter and fifteen minutes later in consideration of work schedules.



MAY 2017
MESSENGER

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
emmanuelbristol@gmail.com
www.emmanuelbristol.org
(276)669-9488
700 Cumberland Street
Bristol, VA 24201

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MESSENGER

The deadline to submit information for the June 2017 *Messenger* is May 19. 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

The Feast of Pentecost

Sunday, June 4, 2017

We will have our Fourth Annual
Parish Family Portrait
after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist
on Pentecost Sunday. Please wear red.

After the portrait,
we will gather in the Parish Hall
for a covered dish meal.

Emmanuel will provide the main dish.
We ask that parishioners bring a side dish
or dessert to share.

