

# EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## **The PEW** **Parish Events Weekly**

**December 19–December 26, 2014**

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### **This Sunday at Emmanuel**

December 21, 2014—The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00—*Holy Eucharist, Rite I*—Lector: Harriett Harty

10:30—*Holy Eucharist, Rite II*—Intercessor: Walt Bressler

*Ushers:* Melissa and David Taverner

*Acolytes:* David and Daniel Bieger

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#### **From the Newest Priest**

Christmas is the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, which is to say, the birth of Jesus. Christmas is much more than the birthday of Jesus. It is the Feast of the Incarnation. The Word that caused creation to stir when God said, “Let there be light,” became human when Jesus was born, because Jesus was God in the flesh, incarnate.

Kathy and I look forward to our first Christmas at Emmanuel. I always love Christmas Eve and there can be no better place than this beautiful church to come together to pray and sing and listen. Emmanuel is known for opening our doors on Christmas day and hosting a dinner. What a wonderful way to say to our neighbors that God is with us! The Christmas Dinner also means that no one in our community has to be alone on Christmas.

During the Christmas Season, the Twelve Days of Christ leading up to Epiphany, we will continue to reflect on the significance of the coming of Jesus Christ into history and into our lives through the presence of the Holy Spirit, especially in the sacraments.

See you Christmas if not before!

#### **Stewardship 2015**

As of Friday, As of Friday, December 19 we have received 66 pledges in the amount of \$176,700 or approximately 52% of our \$335,000 goal. If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider your pledge to Emmanuel in support our parish. We are requesting pledges be returned as soon as possible to allow Vestry time to start planning early for 2015. Thank you!

## Upcoming Events

### **Office Hours**

The parish office will be closed the week of December 22 as well as December 30 through January 2.

### **Christmas Eve**

Our Christmas Eve services will be at 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm this year. Please make plans to join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord.

### **Greening the Church**

The Annual Greening of the Church will take place **Sunday, December 21** after the **10:30 am** service in preparation of our Christmas festivities. If you have any live greenery you would like to share, please leave it in the alley behind the kitchen any time prior to Sunday. Hope you can join us!

### **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Dinner**

Plans are well under way for the 33<sup>rd</sup> 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 all parishioners to provide non-perishable desserts of pastries, pies, cakes, or cookies on **Sunday, December 21** and leave them in the Bledsoe Chapel; decorate the Parish Hall and Christmas tree in the Library on Sunday, **December 21** after the **10:30 am service**; provide non-glass ornaments for the Christmas Tree in the Library; provide gifts for children age 12 and under; provide financial assistance if appropriate

### **96<sup>th</sup> Annual Council**

The Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia will convene the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual

Council January 23–25, 2015 at Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA. Early bird online discount registration for clergy and lay delegates, alternates, and visitors attending all of Council is \$145 until midnight on January 15. All who register after January 15 must register on-site and the cost is \$170. If you do not wish to attend all of Council, but wish to participate in Mission Workshops on Saturday, please register online. There is no charge, but pre-registration ensures your space and materials. To register, please visit <http://www.dioswva.org/governance/annual-council.html>.

The Diocese has a block of rooms reserved until January 5, or until they are full. Rooms may be reserved online at [hotelroanoke.com](http://hotelroanoke.com) or by calling 540-985-5900. Use convention code EPD for the discounted rate.

### **Youth at Council (Y@C)**

Y@C check-in is at Hotel Roanoke and begins at 5:00 pm at the Hokie Wall. Adults at Council, Y@C, and Children at Council will have a buffet dinner at 6:30 pm at Hotel Roanoke (hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ).

After dinner (approximately 7:30 pm) Y@C will be bused to St John's to begin our weekend of fun, singing, group talks, worship, etc. (and of course very little sleep, LOL).

Registration is now open for Y@C. Please visit <http://youth.dioswva.org/Youth%20Events/youth-at-council.html>. The cost is \$100 per participant.

## Miscellaneous Notices

### **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.

### **Prayer Requests**

Alva, Mike Blair, Thelma Blair, Barbara Bunn, Winifred Campbell, Robert Dickert, Emma, Kathy Frey, Ann Gillenwater, Annette, Deirdre Grogan, Sharon Hatcher, Emily Hubbard, Annie Jackson, Michael Johnston, John T. Kelly, Chris Mallin, Gayle Mallin, Louise Medley, Jill Mendiljian, Claire Miller, Mildred Murphy, Elaine Parker, Joyce Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, Katy Sikorski, Sharon Slaughter, Anna Stuart, Nikki Guest Thomas, Lamont Tidwell, Carla Vaughn, Frank Winston, and the families in Family Promise.

### *December Birthdays*

15 Thelma Blair, Bob Bruce  
16 Chad Couch, Ivy Daniels,  
Helen Moore

### *December Wedding Anniversaries*

17 Stephanie and Chris Yoder  
20 Bettie and Jim Hite,  
Barbara Sue and Joe Kurre,  
Patty and Preston Mitchell

## **NOTES OF INTEREST**

### **Parish Office**

If you need to reach the rector whenever the office is closed, call him directly on his cell phone. You may contact the Parish Office by calling (276) 669-9488 or emailing [emmanuelbristol@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelbristol@gmail.com). Office hours are Monday–Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

## **Nursery**

The Emmanuel Nursery will be open 9:00 am to noon each Sunday. We ask that there be no new checks-ins after 10:45 am. If no children are checked in prior to 10:45 am, the nursery will close.

## **Discretionary Funds**

All loose plate offerings collected on the Second Sunday of each month will be designated to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. All loose plate offerings collected on the Third Sunday of each month will be designated to the Deacon's Discretionary Fund. If you would like to support these fund at another time during the month, please write a check with a notation in the memo field with either "Rector's Discretionary" or "Deacon's Discretionary" Fund.

## **Altar Flowers**

Do you need a way to recognize a birthday, or anniversary? Would you like to give a memorial, recognize a special occasion, or give thanks to God for His blessings? Why not do so by sponsoring altar flowers? The cost is \$50 per Sunday and after Sunday services you may share the flowers with a friend, a sick or shut-in parishioner, or enjoy them in your home. The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall on the red information station. For more information, contact Ann Martin-Thomas (423) 878-5522.

## **Pastoral Support**

If you are in need of pastoral support, please contact the rector directly or by calling the Parish Office.

# EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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emmanuelbristol@gmail.com emmanuelbristol.org

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The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas, D. Min.  
*Bishop*

The Rev. Joe K. Dunagan, D. Min.  
*Rector*

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The Rev. Preston Mitchell  
*Deacon*

Stephanie Yoder  
*Organist & Choir Director*

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Kristie Faylor  
*Parish Administrator*

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## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am until 5:00 pm.

### SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 am Rite I  
10:30 am Rite II

### SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION

9:15 am Catechesis  
9:15 am Adult Study

### WEDNESDAY SERVICE

12:15 pm—Bledsoe Chapel  
Holy Eucharist with  
Prayers for Healing

### MORNING PRAYER

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:00 am Bledsoe Chapel

### CHOIR

Wednesday  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### BIBLE STUDY

10:00 am, Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

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## VESTRY

2012-2014  
Brad Adams, *Secretary*  
Tina Hitt  
Julia Rainero  
Allen Rushing, *Jr. Warden*

2013-2015  
Mike Blair  
Frank Goodpasture, III  
Denise Rowe  
David Taverner, *Sr. Warden*

2014-2016  
Fred Knickerbocker  
Doug Mitchell  
Zane Myers  
Debbie Tidwell

Bob Bruce, *Treasurer*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Monday, December 22–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*..... 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Community Christmas Dinner  
*Monday, December 29* .....Last day to submit pledges or request  
reimbursements for 2014  
*Tuesday, December 30–Friday, January 2*..... Parish Office Closed  
*Sunday, January 11, 2:30 pm* ..... Abingdon Convocation

The PEW is emailed each Friday to all parishioners with a valid email address in the Parish Office. If you have any items you would like included in the update, please submit them to emmanuelbristol@gmail.com before noon each Monday.