

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The PEW **Parish Events Weekly**

December 11–December 18, 2015

This Sunday at Emmanuel–December 13 2015 The Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m.—*Lector:* Harriett Harty

10:30 a.m.—*Lector:* Ashley McLaughlin *Intercessor:* Jeremy McLaughlin

Eucharistic Minister: Tom Hairston

Acolytes: Olivia, Kira, David, Tucker, Hagan, Lana

Ushers: Shauna Nefos-Webb and Michael Webb

From the Rector

I parked behind a car on State Street this week with a bumper sticker which announced that the driver's church was founded in the year 33 AD. It reminded me of a similar claim on the sign in front of a church I used to see often when I was a child. It was *First Christian Church, Founded 33 AD*. I'm wondering now if these folks have in mind our Lord's death, resurrection, or the Day of Pentecost as the founding of their Church. Maybe it's all three.

Last Sunday we talked a bit about how scholars have attempted to date the life of Christ based on the times when Roman authorities mentioned in the Bible were in power. Jesus was likely born slightly before the beginning of what is now known academically as the Common Era. Most of us think of it as *anno Domini* meaning *the Year of our Lord* and commonly abbreviated A.D.

The bumper sticker and the sign in front of the church back in Georgia attest to a couple of interesting propositions. Both are suggesting their particular denomination traces its founding to Christ. That misses the commonly held understanding from both scripture and the creeds that there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism and, therefore, one Church. It also raises some interesting questions about the intersection of confessional and empirical approaches to history. One informs the other. How can the academic fully appreciate history without considering the religious motivation of the people who made history? How can we read history devotionally without the insights offered by academics?

We may never know the exact dates of the birth and death of Jesus of Nazareth but we know that first century believers experienced something that changed their lives in such a profound way that history itself came to be marked by the common eras before Jesus and since. History and our personal lives share that perspective. There was life before Christ and now there is life in Christ.

From the Rector continued on the next page

As we continue to prepare for the coming of our Lord in history and in our own lives, let us join with our spiritual family in prayer for the peace that surpasses our understanding.

See you Sunday if not before!

Upcoming Events

Greening of the Church

The annual greening of the Church will take place **Sunday, December 20** after the **10:30** Eucharist 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!

34TH Annual Christmas dinner

Preparations for the 34th Annual Christmas Dinner are well underway! We anticipate another large turnout this year, and we need your help.

The Emmanuel Christmas Dinner will be Friday, **December 25**, from **4:00 p.m.** until **6:00 p.m.** We ask all parishioners to provide the following prior to the dinner:

- Desserts that do not require refrigeration
- UNWRAPPED Gifts for children ages 0-12.
- Shatter proof ornaments (keepsake type)

We have numerous other assignments. You are welcome to participate in one or more of these activities, which may take place before, during, or after the dinner on Christmas Day. To sign up, please contact the Senior Warden, Denise Rowe.

Poinsettia Memorials

Poinsettias will be available again this Christmas for those who wish to purchase them in honor or memory of loved ones. Please fill out the form on the bottom of the PEW and return it with your payment no later than **December 16**.

97th Annual Council

The Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia will convene the 97th Annual Council January 29–31, 2016 at Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA. Online registration is available through January 18. To register, please visit <http://www.dioswva.org/governance/annual-council.html>.

Youth at Council (Y@C)

Y@C is available for 6th -12th graders and will be at St. John's in Roanoke Friday evening January 29 through Sunday morning January 31. For more information please contact John Simpson.

Miscellaneous Notices

Emmanuel Christmas Ornaments

Emmanuel Christmas ornaments are available for \$10 each in the Parish Office.

Large Print Copies of the BCP

Large print copies of the Book of Common Prayer are available in the back of the church. Ask the usher's for assistance.

AED (automated external defibrillator)

In the event of a cardiac emergency an AED is mounted on the wall in the chair lift alcove (2nd floor, just outside the Nave).

Prayer Requests

Jim Barber, Ruby Barber, Carol Biegler, Nancy Bourke, Sue Brickey, Barbara Bunn, Teresa Burkholder, Winifred Campbell, Ivy Daniels, Mark Dollar, Helyn Dougherty, Alva, Emma, Ann Gillenwater, Annette, Sharon Hatcher, James Heath, Tom Hurt, Michael Johnston, Bill Keith, John Kennerly, Joe Kurre, Chris Mallin, Gayle Mallin, Ann Martin-Thomas, Jim McGlothlin, Jill Mendiljian, Claire Miller, Helen Moore, Dan Morgan, Mark Morgan, Rachael Morgan, Jim Rodgers, Joyce Rodgers, Robert Rodgers, Denise Rowe, Norma Shew, Sharon Slaughter, Anna Stuart, Julian Van Winkle, Sarah Vaughn,

Charlotte Vaughn, Reilly Vaughn, the families in Family Promise, and for Will Haynes and all those serving in the military.

Birthdays

- 13 Mary Lou Day, Melissa Taverner
- 15 Bob Bruce, Thelma Blair
- 16 Helen Moore, Ivy Daniels, Chad Couch

Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 Stephanie and Chris Yoder

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. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Nursery

The Emmanuel Nursery will be open 9:30 a.m. to noon each Sunday. We ask that there be no new checks-ins after 10:45 a.m. If no children are checked in prior to 10:45 a.m., the nursery will close.

Needlepoint Kneelers

Please be aware of the potential damage caused to our beautiful kneelers when used as foot rests. If you would like to have one of the kneelers designated in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact Ann Fleming (423-652-7674) and she will show you the kneelers that are available. A donation of \$150 per kneeler is appreciated.

Pastoral Support

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

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Poinsettia Memorials

Poinsettias will be available again this Christmas for those who wish to purchase them in honor or memory of loved ones. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office with your donation no later than December 16.

Name		
	In Honor	In Memory
	<i>Please circle one</i>	
From:		
Contribution:	Check # _____	Amount \$ _____

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

700 Cumberland St., Bristol VA 24201 PO Box 1376, Bristol VA 24203
Phone: 276-669-9488 Fax: 276-669-3817
emmanuelbristol@gmail.com emmanuelbristol.org

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

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

The Rev. Craig R. Wylie, D. Min.
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Preston Mitchell
Deacon

Stephanie Yoder
Organist & Choir Director

John Simpson
Dir. of Formation Ministries

Kristie Faylor
Parish Administrator

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION

Catechesis resumes in Sept.
9:15 a.m. Adult Study

WEDNESDAY SERVICE

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

CHOIR

7:00 p.m.
Wednesday

BIBLE STUDY

10:00 a.m., Thursday
2nd Floor Conference Room

THURSDAY EUCHARIST

6:00 p.m. Bledsoe Chapel
YAF

VESTRY

2013–2015

Dan Bieger
Frank Goodpasture, III
Denise Rowe,
Sr. Warden
David Taverner

2014–2016

Fred Knickerbocker
Doug Mitchell
Debbie Tidwell

2015–2017

Barbara Sue Kurre,
Secretary
Jeremy McLaughlin,
Jr. Warden
Greg Oakley
Barbara Walling

2016–2018

Maggie Green
Sharon Kyser
Michael Webb
Audrey Zaidi

Bob Bruce, *Treasurer*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 20, 9:45 a.m. Christmas Pageant Brunch
Sunday, December 20 during the 10:30 a.m. service Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 20 after the 10:30 a.m. service..... Greening of the church
Tuesday, December 22–Friday, December 25 Parish Office closed
Thursday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Thursday, December 24, 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 25, 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. 34th Annual Community Christmas Dinner
Monday, December 28..... Last day to submit 2015 reimbursements or pledge offerings
Monday, December 28–Thursday, December 31, 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Parish Office open
Friday, January 1 Parish Office closed
Tuesday, January 5..... Epiphany

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.