

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

THE EPISTLE

Sharing the Joy and Power of Life in Christ

February 3 & 10, 2019



You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)

When folks are asked to name their favorite month, I'm guessing that few people answer "February." It's still dark and somewhat dreary, usually cold, and apt to bring in bad weather. February is a month to be endured, with Valentine's Day being the only possible bright spot!

However, this year the month of February also includes the season of Epiphany—the season of light. So in spite of whatever darkness or freezing temperatures come our way, we at church are to be focused on the light of Christ, and our ability and obligation to share in that light. This is a time when we hear wonderful stories of Jesus' divinity and the many people whose lives he touched, and from that we learn how our own lives may be lived in a way that is both holy and helpful. For to live in and through the light of Christ means shining with love, sharing in compassion, and being hopeful in spite of darkness and sin. It means living intentionally in the light of God's grace and goodness and allowing it to transform us and our world.

So don't let the month of February get you down! Look for the light of Christ in the gospels, in the community, and in the people you love. Share in the light of Christ in every way possible. And be grateful for this and every day we have to be a part of the Body of Christ. It is both a blessing and a privilege...so be the light!

Faithfully yours,
Mimi+

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? CONTACT A VESTRY MEMBER!

After a hardworking and fruitful retreat, your vestry is ready to go! They are excited about the year ahead, so if you have any ideas or concerns you want to share, seek them out at coffee hour or contact them at the email listed below.

Diann Nickelsburg, Senior Warden

Donna Lewis, Junior Warden, Communications

Laurry Rodman, Outreach

Stephanie Long, Formation

Tim Sessions, Young Adults

Camile Peter, Parish Life

Marty Basden, Inreach

Jon Osborn, Building and Grounds

Nina Joyner, Liturgical

Bob Gerling, Stewardship

Bill Bosies, Finance

Jeanette Duesberry, Day School

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MAY CHANGE BRING GROWTH



I have a prayer that I use often. It is “May change bring growth, may growth bring love, may love bring change.” Simple, but I believe that the one thing that is constant in life is change, and it is important to embrace change, as it leads to wonderful new things. That leads me to Shrove Tuesday and a bit of change this year. We are going with a Mardi Gras theme this year instead of a pancake dinner. I believe this will be a fun and worthwhile change. The youth will be providing wait staff services for their fund raiser (tips appreciated). Bobby and the band (with a guest appearance) will be providing live music. For dinner, Men’s Breakfast will provide some Mardis Gras inspired cuisine such as red beans and rice, maybe some jambalaya, and for those not so adventurous, some good old food such as hot dogs. Tickets will be available soon at very reasonable prices.



Laissez le bon temps rouler.

Carter

FORMATION



Children’s Formation: Pre-K 4 to 5th grade.

Sundays 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Thank you for all of the volunteers that signed up to teach Sunday School! Please contact Misty Thomas about specific dates. misty8thomas@gmail.com.

Nursery: Newborns to 4-years-old

8:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.



Children’s Chapel: Pre-K to 5th grade

Meets at 10:00 a.m.

Meet in the narthex or join us during the procession.

Children worship and build Bible story with Legos.

FORMATION FOR ALL AGES AT 9:00AM

Adult Forum (Meet in Conf. Room 1)

Feb. 3 *Comparative Religions* – Diann Nickelsburg

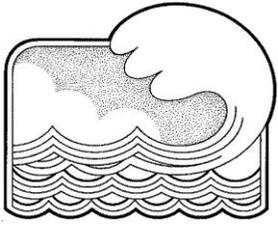
Feb. 10 *Biblical History* – Tom Lacy

Read Between the Lines: Study Sunday’s scripture in the Library

Youth: Discussion in Children’s Chapel

Children: God, faith, and fun! Day School Room #1

Children’s Chapel: 10:00 in the Chapel room



ANNUAL ADULT RETREAT IN OUTER BANKS - MARCH 15 & 16!

Celtic Christianity: The Spirituality of Ordinary Time

In this retreat, we will learn about the origin and evolution of Celtic Christianity, explore its stories, prayers and practices, and take a special look at the themes that might best inform our own faith journeys: creation spirituality, mindfulness, and radical trust. Who knows? It might actually change your life. They say that "heaven is a foot and a half above a person's head," so you never know.

Our facilitator this year is **Claire Poole, M.A.** She is a spiritual director, retreat leader, and teacher of scripture. She has been engaged with Celtic Christianity and pre-Christian Celtic Spirituality for over 25 years. She believes Celtic Christianity is a path of Western mindfulness ideally suited for our fast-paced modern world. Claire has provided adult forum offerings in the past for Emmanuel and is excited to see some old friends!

The retreat fee is \$10 per person and includes lunch on Saturday. [Register online](#) or in the parish hall. Payments should be submitted to Melissa Thomas. As a reminder, this retreat does not have a children's program. Accommodations should be made individually. The closest hotel to our host facility is the Hilton in Kitty Hawk (252-261-1290). Days Inn Orville and Wilbur Wright in Kill Devil Hills (252-441-7211) is a more budget conscious option and a block of rooms are available on a first come first serve basis for our group. (Let them know you're with Emmanuel, VB). Participants should plan to gather by 7pm Friday and will be finished up by 4pm Saturday. If a group of folks want to meet for dinner on Friday, let Melissa know and she'll advertise time and location.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE PARISH RETREAT at CHANCO! MAY 31-JUNE 2

STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP RESOLUTIONS FOR 2019

- *Resolve to strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Notice how often you pray and what hinders you from praying. Commit to short, daily prayer times.
- *Resolve to set aside more time to stay connected with your family. Eat dinner together, schedule regular dates with your spouse, plan family outings, and go to church together.
- *Resolve to get those medical and dental checkups. Adopt healthier eating habits. Add exercise and other physical activity to your daily routine.
- *Resolve to possess a little more "lightly" this year. Consider ways you can reduce the amount of all that stuff you own. Distinguish between those items that are necessary and those that are considered luxurious and unnecessary.
- *Resolve to serve your faith community in some way this year such as at liturgy, in the parish's outreach and formation efforts.
- *Resolve to render sacred your annual budget. Reprioritize your financial goals to ensure that the Lord comes first in your spending. Take positive steps to improve your financial health.
- *Resolve to be faithful to your daily, work-related tasks and offer them up to the Lord. Cultivate your skills. Deepen your knowledge. Be mindful of how you are building the Kingdom of God.
- *Resolve to keep your mind active. Commit to being more informed on the issues of the day. Familiarize yourself with the Church's social teachings.
- *Resolve to be a person of hospitality; to make time and space for others who enter your life. Be more aware of those times when a neighbor, coworker, fellow parishioner or stranger, needs a moment of kindness, a little attention or an affirming gesture on your part.
- *Resolve to live with more compassion and in solidarity with those less fortunate. Remember the poor in prayer, and commit to helping relieve in some way the plight of those who are impoverished or marginalized.

DAYTIME FOYER: VALENTINE'S DAY BINGO



Thursday, February 14 at 12 noon.

Bring a dish to share and a friend. Sign up in the parish hall or contact Misty8thomas@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 14 – 7 P.M.

A special Lenten presentation by the Music Department.



JOYFUL NOISE HANDBELLS REHEARSAL - THURSDAYS AT 6:30 PM

ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL - THURSDAYS AT 7:30PM



Joyful Noise Handbells rehearse at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday in the Sanctuary. Adult Choir rehearsal is at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday in the Choir Room.

All are welcome! Please consider joining this important ministry and have fun making music!

Questions? Contact Bobby Sullivan, 757-818-0505.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSAL - SUNDAYS AT 11:15 AM



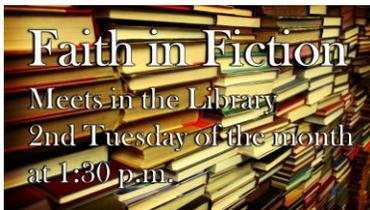
JAM rehearsals (Jesus and Music) Sundays, at 11:15am.

All children and youth, grades 1-6, are invited to come sing with us!

We will continue growing in our music ministry and begin making preparations for helping to lead worship for spring. We need lots of singers!

This is a perfect time for new singers to join us!

FAITH IN FICTION



Next meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. in the Library.

Faith in Fiction is a group that enjoys reading and discussing novels. We focus on the spiritual thread and/or social consciousness running through the story line of a novel. Anyone who has read the book is welcome. Our book for February is *The Homespun Wisdom of Myrtle T. Cribb* by Sheri Reynolds. Please join us!

Future Books:

March: *Flight of the Sparrow: a Novel of Early America* by Amy Belding Brown

April: *The Child* by Fiona Barton

MEN'S BREAKFAST – FEBRUARY 9 - 7:30 AM

SIGN UP IN THE PARISH HALL.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Please join our Women's Bible Study featuring *Jonah – Navigating a Life Interrupted* by Priscilla Shirer. Dive into the study of Jonah and discover that what you see as an interruption may truly be God's divine invitation to a life so much bigger than you can imagine. This study began on Monday, January 14th but all are still welcome! We meet from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. in the Parish Hall. For more information, please call Cindy Barnhurst at 651-1157.

OUTREACH

HURRICANE FLORENCE RECOVERY - MISSION TRIP APRIL 29TH-MAY 3RD

Last September Hurricane Florence devastated many communities in the Carolinas. Faith Works Coalition (FWC) is forming a mission team to assist in rebuilding damaged homes in the New Bern, NC area from April 29th to May 3rd, 2019 (Monday to Friday). Food, lodging and construction coordination will be provided by NC Baptist Missions/Disaster Recovery. Please consider joining in this effort. Anyone can be of help; no construction experience is necessary; willing hands and a willing heart are all that is needed.



Questions and to sign on to our mission team contact Mike Nickelsburg
ybnickels17@gmail.com 757-647-0853

BEACH BAGS



Thank you for your continued support! The need is growing. This year there are 40 children we are helping weekly. Why not pick up something during your weekly grocery store visit? Each bag consists of 2 shelf stable milks, 2 cereals, 2 fruits (usually a juice box and a fruit cup) 2 shelf stable main dishes (easy mac, chef Boyardee, etc.) and 2 snacks. Please don't send peanut/peanut butter products. We do have a few children with allergies. Also you may want to keep in mind that this tied up bag goes in a child's back pack. (Think crushproof).

The parents have been very grateful for this extra help, but I can tell you as a retired teacher that the need is great. There are many good families out there that just need a little help. Some of these parents must work on weekends and these items are things that these children can fix on their own. Most of these children are pretty savvy when it comes to a microwave. Ramen and cup o noodles are not as safe since they require boiling water. With easy mac the water goes in cold and when it's done, the water is pretty much soaked in. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your continued support of this much needed ministry.

- The small, individual cereal boxes
- 8 oz. boxes of shelf stable milk
- Main courses: individual size ravioli, beef stew, mac & cheese, soups, etc.
- 4 oz. fruit cups or 100% juice boxes
- Snack items: cereal bars, pudding cups, raisins, trail mix, crackers

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The group meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 PM, in the Library. If you or someone close to you has been touched by this disease, please come and add your voice to the discussions of how our parish might provide for our family. Any questions contact Marty Basden - 286-7441.



LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS UPDATE:



We have a great team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors at Emmanuel. Alison Leclaire is coordinating visits, so if you ever find yourself unable to attend church due to surgery, illness, or any other circumstances please contact Alison at 576-5582 or email at ahleclaire@gmail.com. Our team would be happy to bring communion to you!

Please pray for:

Peace in the world; Mimi our rector and Carter our deacon in their daily life and work.

Our Parish family: Loretta, Maggie, Emily, June, Herb, Bennett, Janie, Dorothy, Martha, Elizabeth, Nancy, Maryellen, Cynthia, Jamie, Dave, Irv, Tom, Al, Joe, Linda, Mary Evelyn, Mary, Edward, Joey, Marty, Kay, Alaina, Darrell, Steve, Janet, Don, Donna, Jennifer, Bonnie, Okie, Pat, Luke, B.J., David, Liz, Patty, Roger, Kelly, & Chris.

All those in our armed forces and their families: We remember those on deployment especially: Kurt, Will, Scott, Christian, Andrew, Kyle, Josh, and Jacob.

Those in prison: Aki, Anthony, James, John, Jeff, and Ricky.

Emmanuel Clergy & Staff

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| The Rev. Mary C. (Mimi) Lacy, | Rector | email rector@emmanuelvb.org |
| The Rev. Carter Sinclair, | Deacon | email sinclair.carter@gmail.com |
| Parish Administrator Donna Clark | Day School Director | Karen Kearse |
| Music Director Bob Sullivan | Technology Coord. | Martha Hufford |
| Coords. Christian Formation | Melissa Thomas | Custodian Greg Goodman |
| | Misty Thomas | Bookkeeper Nancy Newhams |

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Schedule – February 3

8:00 a.m.

LAY READER: Dave Mansfield

USHER: Bob Gerling

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Marti & Dave Mansfield

VESTRY GREETER: Jon Osborn

WELCOMERS: Chris & Crystal Pate

10:00 a.m.

LAY READERS: Lynne Coates, Pat Holden

USHERS: Bob & Nancy Larmore, Nina Joyner

ACOLYTES:

PRAYER MINISTERS: Pam Abadie, Bob Paul

VESTRY GREETER: Jon Osborn

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Portia & David Dinger

WELCOMERS: Craig & Lori Brashears

EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR: Alison Leclair

COUNTERS: 2/4 Martha Hufford, Tom Sugg,
Mary Lynn & Phil Slough

ALTAR GUILD: 1/26-2/8 Marti & Dave Mansfield,
Marlyn Lam, Beth Orr, Pam Abadie

FLOWER GUILD: 2/3 Garnett Shores, Joanie Upson,
Betty Jean Clarke

Schedule – February 10

8:00 a.m.

LAY READER: Bill Bosies

USHER: John McKee

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Ken Eastwood

VESTRY GREETER: Donna Lewis

WELCOMERS: Jeff & Kathy Peters

10:00 a.m.

LAY READERS: Joe Jerauld, Nina Joyner

USHERS: Savannah & Adam Martin, Steve Furman

ACOLYTES:

PRAYER MINISTERS: Lynne Coates, Susan Summerlin

VESTRY GREETER: Jeanette Duesberry

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Steve Chandler

WELCOMERS: Gary & Linda Ardison

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS: Bruce Delaplane, Walt Altice

COUNTERS: 2/11 Jim O'Meara, George Chafee Lynne
Coates, Bob Burdette

ALTAR GUILD: 2/9-2/22 Lisa Hahn, Ruth Bates,
Paul & Camile Peter, Gloria White

FLOWER GUILD: 2/10 Bob Burdette