

## Emmanuel Episcopal Church

# THE EPISTLE

*Sharing the Joy and Power of Life in Christ*

## June 2022

***Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year.***

Ralph Waldo Emerson



How time flies! In November it will be seven years since I came to Emmanuel—that sounds much longer than I would expect. But busy, productive times often fly by quickly, and I am grateful that I have been with this congregation every step of the way. Emmanuel is written on my heart in ways both large and small and it has been a blessing to be in ministry with all of you.

Now, however, I will be doing something new and different: taking a sabbatical from June 6 to August 15. The opportunity for a sabbatical is written into clergy contracts with the expectation that clergy will take some time away from work for relaxation and refreshment, and I am deeply grateful that Emmanuel has afforded me the opportunity to do so. However, while I am gone you will be in good hands, as I noted in last month's newsletter as well in a separate article in this newsletter—please be sure to check that out.

In the meantime, I want to address one other item close to my heart: preaching. It is an honor and a privilege to speak to a congregation week after week, and I am well aware of my responsibility to be open and fair in what I say. And over the past 21 years of ministry, 15 of which I have preached the vast majority of Sundays and feast days of the year, I have to say that being immersed so constantly in the gospel has changed me in ways both large and small. Such consistent exposure to Jesus' words have caused them to be "written on my heart," so when I sit down to write a sermon, I have no end in mind—I simply write where the words take me. Usually I pray and sometimes I cry, as the world we live in can break my heart—but I always strive to be true to the gospel of Jesus Christ. But know this: I do not expect everyone to agree with me. However, I do expect everyone to think, whether they agree with me or not. Which means that everyone should ask themselves: *What resonates in this sermon? What doesn't? Why? How do I interpret Jesus' teachings differently?* These sorts of questions are what is important—for it's not about what I say, but about where my words take you: every sermon should be considered to be an invitation to think deeply and examine your own faith. And if we only hear comfy words that we all agree with, then our faith will become as stale and boring as the preaching behind it. Therefore, know that I take the call to preach very seriously, and as we continue to travel together, I pray that we will continue to be challenged, to change, and to grow.

Faithfully,  
Mimi+

### EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program of study that is published by The University of the South in Sewanee, TN. It is a course designed as a way for people to learn more about the church, the bible, and their faith, and then to use what they learned in their own ministries. Weekly classes consist of assigned readings and discussions, and they are led by a mentor and/or other members of the class. There is a yearly fee for the class, and scholarships are available. The fall session will begin in September; contact Tom Lacy for more information.



## SABBATICAL DETAILS

**Sunday worship:** will go on as usual! Four different priests will supply: the Rev. James Harlan, the Rev. Marnie Schneider, the Rev. Anne Dale, and the Rev. Stan Sawyer. The Rev. Carter Sinclair will also cover July 4<sup>th</sup> plus two other Sundays with Morning Prayer. Please be sure to welcome our visiting clergy and thank them for their time!

**Pastoral Care:** Your wardens, Linda Deviney and Joan Raybourn, along with Deacon Carter Sinclair, will be the point persons for pastoral care needs; their numbers are listed in the Emmanuel Directory and in the list below. Along with them we have volunteers who are willing to simply talk by phone or with a visit—just let the wardens know.

**Finances:** Nancy Newhams will continue to be available to answer questions or address concerns. [Finance.emmanuelvb@gmail.com](mailto:Finance.emmanuelvb@gmail.com)

**Administration:** If she doesn't immediately know the answer, Nellwyn Beamon will quickly find it for you! She's efficient and cheerful, and will be able to help parishioners sort through their questions and needs. [Office.emmanuelvb@gmail.com](mailto:Office.emmanuelvb@gmail.com) or 757-499-1271.

**Covid precautions:** Hopefully we will get through summer with the same guidelines we've had so far: masking required for the unvaccinated and optional for the vaccinated. Any changes will be closely monitored by the wardens. Numbers are currently rising across the country, but at this point everyone is aware of their own risk assessment and acting accordingly.

Please know that even though we have done all we can to cover any possible issue while I am gone, things may still slip through the cracks! So please be patient, offer to help, and continue to care for each other and our community as you have always done. Mimi

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### Emmanuel Staff

Church Office 757-499-1271

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#### Bishop Southern Virginia

The Rt. Rev. Susan B Haynes

#### Rector

The Rev. Mimi Lacy

#### Deacon

The. Rev. Carter Sinclair

#### Director of Music

Bobby Sullivan

#### Christian Formation

Diana Moreland

#### Technology Coordinator

Virginia Everett

#### Director Children's Choirs

Janet White

#### Day School Director

Carla Harrison; [Eeds.emmanuelvb@gmail.com](mailto:Eeds.emmanuelvb@gmail.com)

#### Director of Finance

Nancy Newhams;  
[Finance.emmanuelvb@gmail.com](mailto:Finance.emmanuelvb@gmail.com)

#### Parish Administrator

Nellwyn Beamon;  
[Office.emmanuelvb@gmail.com](mailto:Office.emmanuelvb@gmail.com)

#### Custodian

Greg Goodman

#### Treasurer

Bill Sisley

#### Senior Warden

Linda Deviney

#### Junior Warden

Joan Raybourn

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### DON'T FORGET!

Emmanuel runs a very "lean" operation—meaning there is not a lot of fat in our budget. With this in mind, it's important that folks keep up with their pledges and financial contributions so that all our usual bills (insurance, utilities, salaries, mortgage etc.) can be paid on time. So don't forget Emmanuel over the summer! We need your support.

## SEEING RED!

Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> is **Pentecost Sunday**—so whether you are at home or at church, be sure to wear **red!** After church, we will gather on the grounds and enjoy a Parish picnic! Bring your chairs!

## LITURGICAL NOTES

Now that the Great Fifty Days of Easter are almost over and we will celebrate Pentecost on **June 5**, all that is left of "special" days is Trinity Sunday. On that day we will use Eucharistic Prayer D from The Book of Common Prayer (a rare occurrence!). This particular prayer is very "Trinitarian" in nature; listen closely for why that is so. And then after Trinity Sunday we move into "Sundays after Pentecost" or "Ordinary Time." So these are the changes you will see for the summer:

- The liturgical color will be green.
- The opening acclamation is once again the one for "ordinary time;" we will use the familiar one from The Book of Common Prayer.
- A reading from the Old Testament will replace the readings from Acts.
- The confession and absolution will return to their usual place in the liturgy.
- The option to either stand or kneel for the Eucharistic Prayer will once more be part of the service.
- Our Eucharistic Prayer will be Form C, from The Book of Common Prayer, which has a call and response pattern to it that invites the congregation to participate more fully in the Great Thanksgiving.
- We will be using our "ordinary" dismissal.

As always, let me know if you have any questions! Mimi+

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Attention, Men of Emmanuel! You have a new opportunity to join Emmanuel's Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, which meets on Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM for breakfast, fellowship, prayer, study and service.



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is an international ministry of men within the Anglican Communion with corporate offices in Louisville, KY. Though founded in 1883 at a Chicago church, it was later actually incorporated by an Act of Congress in May of 1908 and signed by President Theodore Roosevelt (who was also a member of the Brotherhood). That Act states, "The sole object of said corporation shall be the spread of Christ's Kingdom among men."

The Brotherhood acknowledges God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and accepts its responsibility to represent Jesus and his Church:

- To bear witness to him wherever we may be, and according to the gifts given to us,
- To carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world, and
- To take our place in the life, worship and governance of the Church

The Brotherhood follows three Disciplines in our daily lives:

- The discipline of prayer is to pray daily for the spread of Christ's Kingdom and to ask his blessings on the work of the Brotherhood.
- The discipline of study is to study the Holy Scriptures regularly and the teachings of the church to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into His Kingdom.
- The discipline of Service is to make continuous efforts, week by week, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

Therefore, Men of Emmanuel, consider yourselves invited to join the Brotherhood of St Andrew on Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM for breakfast, prayer, and a lively discussion of the next Sunday's Gospel. I assure you that you will not be disappointed. Duncan Bell

## FORMATION

As teachers and students count the days to the end of the school year, many of us, whether we are affected by the school year or not, are beginning to enjoy the summer weather and, hopefully, seeing schedules slow down to allow for vacation time. In many ways, this is similar to the church; the Formation year has ended, and not quite as many things are going on each week. However, some things I hope people are counting on are our parish picnic on June 5<sup>th</sup>, Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, and Summer Camp at Chanco. Below is a little information about the goings-on in the formation world this Summer; I hope to see all of you at one or more of the events this Summer.



**Emmanuel will be holding Vacation Bible School this summer from June 20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>—Food Truck Party! VBS Registration:** is open! You can register now until June 17<sup>th</sup>. <https://forms.gle/mDYeh5a74UJxVc4D7> All children ages 3 through fifth grade are welcome!

**VBS Supplies:** To make Vacation Bible School a “Food Truck Party,” we need help collecting supplies. A supply poster will be up under the Christian Formation bulletin board. Some supplies are things we will be just borrowing, some are items you might normally throw out, and some are things you might need to buy. Please check out the Poster, take a sticky, and sign your name for what you can help out with!!! Please bring back supplies by June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Children Chapel:** Though the regular children’s chapel is over for the Summer, we will have children bulletins in the Narthex each week for those children at worship. We will also be offering a children’s chapel on June 26<sup>th</sup> as a follow-up to VBS.



**JAM (Jesus and Music)** is now on summer break and will not meet again after church services until September 18. We rejoice in our opportunity to sing in worship and look forward to resuming in the fall. Invite anyone ages 5-12 to join us then!

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## ONGOING ADULT FORMATION



**The Richard Rohr group** meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the library to discuss Rohr’s Daily Meditations <https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>. In June we will also select our next book for supplementary reading.

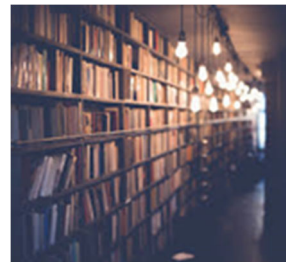
**We encourage you to sample Rohr’s meditations online and then, if you want to join us, we welcome you to give our group a try or just listen in.**

**Join us Tuesday, June 7, at 11:00 AM on Zoom and/or in person if possible.** Contact Diann Nickelsburg for more information or to receive a Zoom link.

### Faith in Fiction – June meeting

Next meeting: Second Tuesday, June 14 at 1:00PM.

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. Due to the cancellation of the May meeting, our book for this month is still True Colors by Kristin Hannah. We are planning to meet in the Library in person and will also have Zoom available for those who prefer to meet on-line! If you would like more information, please contact Bonnie Kiermaier.



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**Lunch Bunch: June 8** at noon at Abuelo’s on Greenbrier Parkway. Please RSVP to Karlyn Chafee. On July 20, we meet at noon at the church—potluck!

## Everyday Stewardship

One of the great things about our Parish is Martha's Ministry. When we have a funeral, they spring into action and provide a great reception to the family at no cost. Mary Fanshaw is the leader, and she is ably assisted by many others. To try to honor by name all the leaders and laborers of this ministry would be almost impossible. Suffice it to say that there have been many members of the parish family that have served in this important ministry. I have attended many of the receptions, and in talking with visitors many of them were astounded to learn about this ministry. Over the years I have heard many favorable comments. Last weekend an Episcopalian from another church opined that when he died, he wanted to have his service and reception here. He said, "the love expressed by the outpouring of food and the hard work of the servers here is impressive and a great ministry." This is Everyday Stewardship at its finest, and all of the volunteers that make this happen are truly ministers to people in a time of great need.



### ATTENTION ALL SUNDAY MINISTRIES

This summer it will be more important than usual to find a sub if you cannot fulfill your Sunday ministry. The supply clergy will not know how to fill a spot if someone is a no-show so each person **MUST** be responsible to find someone to work. To that end:

Start looking for a sub early.

If no one answers your general email request, you must make some phone calls! Do not trust someone to just show up.

If you absolutely cannot find someone, then be sure to call someone else who is working that day (usher, LEM, Altar Guild, etc.) to let them know so that they are able to help the supply clergyperson find some help.

**Thank you!** *It will all go well if each person does their part.*

### SUMMER OUTREACH AT EMMANUEL



In partnership with the Southeastern Virginia Foodbank, we will we will collect needed baby items in the narthex near the designated signs. The Foodbank has requested baby formula (if possible), baby food (**no glass jars**—plastic only), diapers (all sizes needed), and wipes. Thank you for assisting with

this very worthwhile outreach project!! This collection runs from **June 1—July 10.**

### Our next night at the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center is FAST approaching....

We plan to resume our regular protocol of providing the meals and serving them to the good folks whom the JCOC serves. **Our next date is JUNE 7. Thank you to those who are providing food and time; we need four more people to help serve that night.** If you have any questions, please get in touch with Gary Ardison. Thank you so much for your dedication to this ministry as we gear up again.



**Living the 4th Day:**  
***A Celebration of Music***

**June 4, 2022**

**Chanco on the James**

**9:00am to 12:30pm**

**In the Spirit Center**

*Bring a bagged lunch if you'd like to stay for socializing.*

*Lemonade, water, cups & napkins will be provided.*



**De Colores!**

**WEBSITE LINK:**

**The Church Calendar online:**

<https://73807202.view-events.com>